

# City Council

Monday 25 September 2017

## PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs Foster, in the 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, Drear, Evans, Fletcher, K Foster, Fry, Hendy, James, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Sam Leaves, Loveridge, Dr Mahony, Mavin, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Nicholson, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Mrs Pengelly, Rennie, Ricketts, Riley, Singh, Smith, Sparling, Stevens, Storer, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Wiggins and Winter.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Lowry and Penberthy

The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 8.40 pm.

*Note: The full discussion can be viewed on the webcast of the City Council meeting at [www.plymouth.gov.uk](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk). At a future meeting, the Council will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.*

## 20. Minutes

The Lord Mayor moved a procedural motion to vary items on the agenda to take item four after item seven. The motion was seconded by the Deputy Lord Mayor and following a vote the motion was carried.

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 July 2017 were agreed subject to a correction to the voting record and Councillor Patrick Nicholson's Disclosable Pecuniary Interest as an employee of Devonport Dockyard Limited.

## 21. Declarations of interest

The following declarations of interest were made by councillors in accordance with the code of conduct in respect of items under consideration at the meeting -

Name	Minute Number	Reason	Interest
Councillor Stevens, Beer, Bowie, Mavin, McDonald, Smith, Tuffin, Rennie, Evans, Tuohy, Sparling, Parker Delaz-Ajete, Morris and	29 C	Member of the GMB Trade Union	Private

Dann.			
Councillors K Taylor and Storer.	29 C	Member of the UNITE Trade Union	Private
Councillor J Taylor	29 C	Wife is a Local Government Employee	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest
Councillor J Taylor and Mrs Leaves.	29 D	Clinical Commissioning Group - Commissioner	Private
Councillor K Taylor.	29 D	Employee of Mental Health Trust	Private
Councillor Tuohy.	29 B	Family member is Street Services employee	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest
Councillor Cook .	29 A	Manufacturer of fire prevention products	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

22. **Announcements**

The Lord Mayor led the Council in a moment of silence in memory of Freeman Dicker and former Councillor Alan Weekes.

The Lord Mayor welcomed members of staff to the Council and presented awards to the Customer Service department who have achieved the Customer Service Excellence accreditation 2018 and Best Use of Technology.

Announcements from the Leader:

(a) Winter Works Programme;

(b) Recycling Rates;

(c) Recent meeting with the Jake Berry, Minister responsible for devolution.

Announcements from Chair of the Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

(a) Sexual Assault Referral Centres on the Peninsula

23. **Questions by the public**

There were three questions from members of the public.

Question submitted by: Terri Portman
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To the Cabinet Member: Cllr Patrick Nicholson, Deputy Leader

How many voters were removed from the electoral register for the 3 Plymouth Constituencies between June 2016 and June 2017 but were not informed after they were removed of their removal, and were not given details of how to challenge the decision to remove them?

Response:

In the ordinary business of keeping the electoral register for Plymouth up to date; changes, additions and deletions are made for a variety of reasons. In the case of the deletion of registered electors there are a number of reasons for their deletion, such as elector deceased, moved to another property within Plymouth, moved away, registered elsewhere.

During the review process, some electors are recorded as “pending” electors and not registered until they provide matching details that agree with Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) records or alternative documentation to verify their identity (e.g., Passport or Driving Licence). Those that fail to respond to requests for evidence are subsequently deleted from the register.

For those electors that have been identified as needing deletion, their records are changed to “pending” removal. We write to the elector to give ‘Notice of Type A Review’, this gives the elector 14 days to provide evidence as to why they should not be deleted from the register. Those that fail to respond to requests for evidence are subsequently deleted.

Where we delete the elector from the register, we write to them informing them of the outcome and state whether there is a right of appeal, including the time within which notice of appeal must be given, and any other information about the appeal that we consider appropriate. However, if the reason for deletion is because the elector has died or registered with another authority, the notice of deletion (‘Notice of Review Outcome’) is surplus to requirement and therefore not issued.

During the period of June 2016 to June 2017, we processed 10,337 deletions and 27,132 additions (net 16,795 additions). Of the 10,337 deletions, 331 electors were deleted and not notified. All other deletions followed the review process and the elector will have received the ‘Notice of Type A Review’ and the notification of deletion (‘Notice of Review Outcome’) where it was appropriate to do so. We are currently investigating the ability to use the new electoral system to report the deletions by the reason for deletion, this will enable sight of those where a ‘Notice of Review Outcome’ was required.

Question submitted by: Mr Daniel Reilly

To the Cabinet Member: Cllr Jordan, Cabinet member for Culture

Will the Council add panels in the Mayflower Museum so as to include details of the 17th Century genocide of Indigenous Nations of North America and the enslavement of African people, which are part of the Mayflower Story, as the Museum is supposed to tell the uncensored Mayflower story?

Response:

The council is investing in a major exhibition to mark the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower which will reflect on the part we have played in changing America. This national show will open in April 2020 as part of The Box Plymouth's opening programme, and will remain in place for at least 18 months.

As with all our exhibitions, this show will present an honest and thoughtful account of the Mayflower story and will share indigenous American perspectives of this history and its legacy today. It will include:

- The culture and society of the Wampanoag people before the arrival of the Europeans
- The captivity and enslavement stories which characterise the early contact period, as well as
- The challenges of conflict and co-existence during the life of the Plymouth colony

To do this, we are working closely with the Wampanoag community based in Massachusetts, who are advising us on the text, objects and imagery for the exhibition. Their contribution will give an authentic indigenous American voice, along with academic advice from Dr Kathryn Gray at the University of Plymouth and Professor Laura Peers at the Pitt Rivers Museum. Thanks to our previous exhibitions and publications 'On Human Cargo' and a new partnership with Jamestown Rediscovery, we are also exploring how we might accurately and effectively present the story of African slavery within the Mayflower story.

The knowledge and insights gained from the work done on this show will enable us to significantly reassess the story being told within the current Mayflower Museum, and address the issues its existing interpretation presents. As part of this process we will also be developing a series of heritage trails across the city, which will interpret and narrate the key part that Plymouth played in the history of America at many important locations across the city.

Mayflower is a globally recognised anniversary and will provide Plymouth with a unique opportunity to be on the world stage in 2020.

Question submitted by: Mr Danny Bamping

To the Cabinet Member: Cllr Ian Darcy, Cabinet Member for Finance and IT

Can the council confirm it charges Student Flats BUSINESS RATES as almost 4,000 homes and over 400 blocks of flats are now registered exempt from both, how is the council ensuring that they pay Business rates and in some cases Council Tax as other councils are doing with HMO properties?

Response:

The decision to rate a property for Business Rates lies with the Valuation Office Agency and not the Local Authority. If the Valuation Office have classed a property as commercial then business rates

will be payable. The amount charged will depend on the rateable value set.

There is legislation provided under the Local Government Finance Act (LGFA) 88 (sec 42) which states that all hereditaments must appear in the local (or central) rating list. There are exceptions to this and one of those exceptions is if all or part of the hereditament is domestic property – if it is domestic then it shall not appear in the local rating list.

LGFA92 states that all dwellings are charged council tax. Sec 3 defines what a dwelling is- that is a hereditament that does not appear in the local (or central) rating list and is not exempt from NNDR.

The definition of domestic property in LGFA88 is set out at section 66:

A property that is used wholly for residential living accommodation (i.e. student flats) is considered domestic property and therefore cannot be rated.

All queries regarding the rating of a property should be directed to the Valuation Office Agency, The Apex, Derriford Business Park, Plymouth, PL6 5FL – Telephone: 03000 501501.

#### 24. **Recommendations of the Investigation into the 2017 General Election**

The Lord Mayor, in accordance with article 14.1(b) of the Constitution and Council Procedure Rule 21, moved to suspend the usual procedural rules of debate to allow Dr. Smith and the Acting Returning Officer to present to council and answer questions from members before recommendations were put to Council. The Deputy Lord Mayor seconded the motion and following a vote the motion was carried.

*For the motion (55)*

*Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillors Aspinall, Bowie, Coker, Dann, P Davey, S Davey, Evans OBE, Hendy, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Rennie, Singh, Smith, Stevens, J Taylor, K Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Churchill, Darcy, Deacon, Downie, Drean, Fletcher, Foster, Fry, James, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Mrs Leaves, Dr Mahony, Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Ricketts, Wiggins, Mrs Bridgeman, Riley, Storer, Sparling, Mavin, Carson, Winter, Mrs Loveridge and Cook.*

*Against the Motion (0)*

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*Abstain (0)*

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*Absent / Did not vote (2)*

*Councillor Lowry and Penberthy.*

The Lord Mayor advised council that in order to provide assurance to members Council would receive independent advice in respect of this matter and Mr Pinwell, a solicitor in a leading private practice firm which deals with local government law, had been commissioned for this role.

Following the presentation and question and answer session the Lord Mayor moved the recommendations from the report as follows –

That Council –

1. notes the recommendations in Dr Smith's Review of Registration and Elections relating to the 2017 General Election, in the context of what happened and why;
2. notes the Acting Returning Officer's response to the review recommendations;
3. notes the costs associated with the election response, recovery and independent investigation;
4. asks the Constitutional Review Group to oversee the Council's response to the recommendations from Dr Smith's report and the implementation of the Electoral Services Improvement Plan, reporting back to Full Council on progress as required; and
5. notes that a follow-up external review of elections-readiness will be commissioned and undertaken in January 2018.

The motion was seconded by the Deputy Lord Mayor and following a vote was carried.

*For the motion (55)*

*Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillors Aspinall, Bowie, Coker, Dann, P Davey, S Davey, Evans OBE, Hendy, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Rennie, Singh, Smith, Stevens, J Taylor, K Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Churchill, Darcy, Deacon, Downie, Drear, Fletcher, Foster, Fry, James, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Mrs Leaves, Dr Mahony, Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Ricketts, Wiggins, Mrs Bridgeman, Riley, Storer, Sparling, Mavin, Carson, Winter, Mrs Loveridge and Cook.*

*Against the Motion (0)*

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*Abstain (1)*

*Lord Mayor*

*Absent / Did not vote (2)*

*Councillor Lowry and Penberthy.*

## 25. **APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, OUTSIDE BODIES ETC,**

Changes to the political composition of the council, resulting change to proportionality and committee membership reported to the monitoring officer as below was noted –

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Previous Member</b>	<b>New Member</b>
Chief Officers Appeals Panel	Councillor Penberthy	Councillor Carson
Chief Officers Disciplinary Panel	Councillor McDonald	Councillor Carson
Taxi Licensing Committee	Councillor Singh	Councillor Deacon
Planning Committee	Councillor Cook	Councillor Riley

## 26. **Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel**

Councillor Riley (Cabinet Member for HR/ Democracy and Governance / Licensing) proposed and Councillor Stevens seconded the report and recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

Following a vote the council agreed –

1. that basic allowance should remain unchanged for all Members, subject to appropriate back-dating of index-linked uplift where necessary for 2017/18;
2. to follow the developing national debate on core expectations of Members and inform the Panel of any significant developments that have implications for variance of the basic allowance;
3. that SRAs for the following roles remain unchanged subject to appropriate back-dating of index-linked uplift where necessary for 2017/18: Leader of the Council; Deputy Leader of the Council; Chair of Planning; Vice-Chair of Planning; Chair of Licensing Committee; Chair of Taxi Licensing; Chair of Audit; Leader of the largest minority party; Leader of other minority parties; and Deputy Leader of largest majority party;
4. that interim SRA determined in 2016 for the Scrutiny Committee Chairs should be confirmed and appropriate back-dating of index-linked uplift applied where necessary;
5. that the Travel and Subsistence Policy in the 'Plymouth Book' should continue to be applied for Member travel and subsistence claims;
6. that Co-opted members should remain unremunerated, except for the reimbursement of travel and subsistence;
7. that current provisions of the childcare and dependent carers allowance should be retained;
8. that any changes to Member allowances should be back-dated to the start of the municipal year where applicable;
9. that the arrangement of linking Members' allowances to the annual local government cost of living pay award should be retained;
10. to note the next full review of member allowances will take place by 2021 and delegates to the Monitoring Officer responsibility for undertaking the necessary updates to Appendix One of the Council's Constitution to reflect the agreed member allowances from 2017/18.

*For the motion (53)*

*Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillors Aspinall, Bowie, Coker, Dann, P Davey, S Davey, Evans OBE, Hendy, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Rennie, Singh, Smith, Stevens, J Taylor, K Taylor,*

Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Churchill, Darcy, Deacon, Downie, Drear, Fletcher, Foster, Fry, James, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Mrs Leaves, Dr Mahony, Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Ricketts, Wiggins, Mrs Bridgeman, Riley, Storer, Mavin, Carson, Winter, Mrs Loveridge and Cook.

Against the Motion (0)

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Abstain (1)

Lord Mayor

Absent / Did not vote (3)

Councillor Lowry, Penberthy and Sparling.

27. **Establishing a strategic partnership with Torbay Council to deliver Children's Services**

**(i) Recommendations from Scrutiny**

Councillor Mrs Aspinall (Chair of Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny) proposed and Councillor James (Vice Chair of Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny) seconded the report of the Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the meeting held on the 20 September 2017.

Council agreed to note the report.

**(ii) Recommendations from Cabinet**

Council Bowyer (Leader) proposed, as amended, and Councillor Evans OBE seconded a report and recommendations on establishing a strategic partnership with Torbay Council to deliver Children's Services.

Following a debate council agreed to –

- I. Endorse Cabinet's 'in principle' decision to progress the development of a delivery contract with Torbay Council to run its Children's Services, subject to the following:
  - (i) Should Torbay Council decide at its meeting on 27 September 2017 that it wishes to progress a strategic partnership with another council for its other services (either upper tier or upper and lower tier), then Plymouth City Council would withdraw its 'in principle' decision for Children's Services as this would add too much complexity.
  - (ii) If Torbay Council decides at that meeting not to pursue a strategic partnership for its other services, that it formally sets out its future strategic direction, operating model and service delivery arrangements for the next 5 years so that Plymouth may consider this in the light of the Children's Services provision.



2. Endorse Cabinet's 'in principle' decision to work with Torbay Council and the Commissioner for Children's Services, and under the auspices of the Department for Education to develop a detailed contractual agreement.
3. Endorse Cabinet's 'in principle' decision to delegate to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader and the Leader of the Opposition, development of the detailed contractual agreement, and adds the Torbay Children's Services Cross-Party Working Group to those with whom the Chief Executive will consult.
4. Endorses the points arising from the Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 20 September 2017, and notes their inclusion in the schedule referred to in 7 below.
5. Requests that the Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee further examines the arrangements as they develop, and makes recommendations to Cabinet before any final decision is made.
6. Agrees to receive a further report, following the 'due diligence' exercise and seeks further endorsement from Council before any binding decision is made.
7. Agrees that the 'due diligence' exercise must cover the issues listed in the schedule below and must provide sufficient assurance to Council that all aspects have been explored, and that appropriate monitoring and controls are in place.

## **DUE DILIGENCE SCHEDULE**

### **a) Leadership, Capacity and Maintaining Focus**

- Ensures that Plymouth's senior management have sufficient capacity to deliver, given the breadth of their current remit
- Provides clarity on staffing structures, including describing the controls that will be put in place to ensure that any staffing shortfalls will be addressed within the respective councils
- Provides reassurance that there will be no impact on service delivery for, or detriment to children and young people in Plymouth, nor any detriment to frontline social care staff
- Describes how Plymouth's capacity and reputation will be managed in the event of a major investigation or high profile case in either authority, setting out the details of how the Council would respond to potential scenarios
- Demonstrates how the Council will continue to maintain its own improvement journey and performance levels
- Describes how the arrangement will improve the recruitment and retention of social workers in both councils
- Includes a comprehensive risk register that is actively monitored and widely shared

**b) Funding**

- Provides reassurance that:
  - The set up and operation of the delivery contract will be at no cost to the Council and there will be no cross-subsidy or pooling of budgets between the two councils.
  - Sufficient funding will be made available from the DfE and/or other sources to enable both Councils to undertake effective due diligence and cover the transition phase
  - Torbay's medium term financial planning makes sufficient provision for the delivery of Children's Services for the duration of the agreement
  - There is sufficient ongoing visibility of Torbay Council's overall budget and financial planning process, and that decisions made in the medium term are assessed for any inadvertent impacts on Children's Services

**c) Roles and Responsibilities**

- Confirms that Plymouth City Council's accountabilities for children and young people are distinct, including around safeguarding, and provides assurance that any reputational impacts of serious incidents or negative judgements are contained within the relevant authority
- Provides clarity around the legal arrangements, including the terms under which the contract can be terminated, who will have responsibility for monitoring the contractual agreement, and who would cover any costs related to early termination
- Describes how the effectiveness of the contractual arrangement will be reported, including the impact on the improvement of Torbay's Children's Services
- Clarifies the future relationship with the DfE and arrangements under Ofsted
- Sets out the proposed senior staffing structure for the management of the contract

**d) Political and Governance**

- Provides clarity about the political accountabilities within both Plymouth and Torbay councils
- Ascertains the level of cross party support in Torbay for the arrangement
- Identifies the Council's response if Torbay Council were to cut the provision of non-statutory services which could have an impact on Children's Services
- Provides clarity about potential future governance and scrutiny approaches

**e) Communications**

- Provides clarity about the communications approach to the people of Plymouth
- Provides reassurance to Plymouth residents that Children's Services will not suffer as a result of the arrangement

- Includes a comprehensive communication and engagement plan.

*For the motion (53)*

*Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillors Aspinall, Bowie, Coker, Dann, P Davey, S Davey, Evans OBE, Hendy, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Rennie, Singh, Smith, Stevens, J Taylor, K Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Churchill, Darcy, Deacon, Downie, Drean, Fletcher, Foster, Fry, James, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Mrs Leaves, Dr Mahony, Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Ricketts, Wiggins, Mrs Bridgeman, Riley, Storer, Mavin, Carson, Winter, Mrs Loveridge and Cook.*

*Against the Motion (0)*

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*Abstain (1)*

*Lord Mayor*

*Absent / Did not vote (3)*

*Councillor Lowry, Penberthy and Sparling.*

## 28. **Capital and Revenue Monitoring Report 2017/18 - Quarter 1**

Councillor Darcy (Cabinet Member for Finance/ICT) presented the report on the Capital and Revenue Monitoring Report 2017/18 quarter one. Councillor Bowyer (Leader) seconded the report.

Following a short debate and vote Council agreed –

1. to note the current revenue monitoring position and action plans in place to reduce/mitigate shortfalls;
2. that the Capital Budget 2017 -2022 is revised to £836m (as shown in Table 5).

*For the motion (51)*

*Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillors Aspinall, Coker, Dann, P Davey, S Davey, Evans OBE, Hendy, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Rennie, Smith, Stevens, J Taylor, K Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Churchill, Darcy, Deacon, Downie, Drean, Fletcher, Foster, Fry, James, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Mrs Leaves, Dr Mahony, Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Ricketts, Wiggins, Mrs Bridgeman, Riley, Storer, Mavin, Carson, Winter, Mrs Loveridge and Cook.*

*Against the Motion (0)*

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*Abstain (1)*

*Lord Mayor*

Absent / Did not vote (5)

Councillor Lowry, Penberthy, Sparling, Bowie and Singh.

## 29. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

### (i) **SPRINKLERS IN SCHOOLS**

Councillor McDonald proposed, as amended, and Councillor Evans OBE seconded a motion on Sprinklers in Schools.

Following a short debate and vote, council agreed to lobby the Secretary of State for Education–

1. to restore the requirement for compulsory sprinklers in new build schools and nurseries in Plymouth;
2. to require the retrofit of sprinklers within schools and nurseries in Plymouth;
3. to support the requirements with the necessary funding through capital grant.

*For the motion (50)*

*Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillors Aspinall, Coker, Dann, P Davey, S Davey, Evans OBE, Hendy, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Rennie, Smith, Stevens, J Taylor, K Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Churchill, Darcy, Deacon, Downie, Drear, Fletcher, Foster, James, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Mrs Leaves, Dr Mahony, Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Ricketts, Wiggins, Mrs Bridgeman, Riley, Storer, Mavin, Carson, Winter, Mrs Loveridge and.*

*Against the Motion (0)*

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*Abstain (0)*

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*Absent / Did not vote (7)*

*Councillor Lowry, Penberthy, Cook, Sparling, Fry, Bowie and Singh.*

*Councillor Cook was absent due to interests declared*

### (ii) **PLYMOUTH'S LITTER AND STREET CLEANING PROBLEM**

Councillor Dann proposed and Councillor Coker seconded a motion titled Plymouth's Litter and Street Cleaning Problem.

Following a debate and vote the motion was lost.

*For the motion (21)*

*Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Coker, Dann, P Davey, S Davey, Evans OBE, Hendy,*

*McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Rennie, Smith, Stevens, J Taylor K Taylor, Tuffin, Mavin, Vincent, Wheeler and Winter.*

*Against the Motion (28)*

*Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillors Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Churchill, Darcy, Deacon, Downie, Drean, Fletcher, Foster, James, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Mrs Leaves, Dr Mahony, Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Ricketts, Wiggins, Mrs Bridgeman, Riley, Storer, Carson, Mrs Loveridge and Cook.*

*Abstain (1)*

*Lord Mayor*

*Absent / Did not vote (5)*

*Councillor Lowry, Penberthy, Sparling, Bowie, Tuohy and Singh.*

*Councillor Tuohy was absent due to interests declared.*

**(iii) ENDING THE UNFAIR PAY CAP FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAFF**

Councillor Stevens proposed and Councillor Smith seconded a motion titled Ending the unfair pay cap for Local Government staff.

During the debate Councillor Darcy moved and Councillor Nicholson seconded an amendment to the motion. Following a vote the amendment was carried.

*For the motion (47)*

*Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillors Aspinall, Dann, P Davey, S Davey, Evans OBE, Hendy, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Rennie, Smith, Stevens, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Churchill, Darcy, Deacon, Downie, Drean, Fletcher, Foster, James, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Mrs Leaves, Dr Mahony, Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Ricketts, Wiggins, Mrs Bridgeman, Riley, Storer, Mavin, Carson, Winter, Mrs Loveridge and Cook.*

*Against the Motion (0)*

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*Abstain (1)*

*Lord Mayor*

*Absent / Did not vote (9)*

*Councillor Lowry, Penberthy, Sparling, Coker, Bowie, Singh, J Taylor, K Taylor and Fry,*

Following a short debate on the amended motion Council agreed –

1. to note that -
  - a. National Joint Council for Local Government Services basic pay has fallen by 21% since 2010 in real terms
  - b. NJC Local Government staff had a three-year pay freeze from 2010-2012
  - c. NJC Local Government staff pay is the lowest in the public sector
2. Plymouth City Council believes the hard work and commitment shown by our staff deserve a fair and equitable pay settlement.
3. to support the 2018 NJC pay claim submitted by UNISON, GMB and Unite on behalf of Local Government and school workers and calls for the immediate end of this aspect of public sector pay restraint. NJC pay must not fall further behind other parts of the public sector.
4. to welcome the joint review of the NJC pay spine to remedy the turbulence caused by bottom-loaded pay settlements.
5. to call on the Government to fund a decent pay rise for NJC employees and the pay spine review.
6. To resolve to-
  - a. Inform local Trades Union representatives of our support for the pay claim and the pay spine review.
  - b. Actively support campaigns such as the GMB's Paypinch ([www.paypinch.org](http://www.paypinch.org)) highlighting the unfairness of the pay cap on our staff.
  - c. Call immediately on the Local Government Association to make urgent representations to Government to fund the NJC claim and the pay spine review and notify us of their action in this regard.
  - d. Write to Gary Streeter MP, Jonny Mercer MP and Luke Pollard MP requesting they join us in supporting the NJC pay claim and seeking additional funding to fund a decent pay rise and the pay spine review.

*For the motion (47)*

*Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillors Aspinall, Dann, P Davey, S Davey, Evans OBE, Hendy, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Rennie, Smith, Stevens, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Churchill, Darcy, Deacon, Downie, Drean, Fletcher, Foster, James, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Mrs Leaves, Dr Mahony, Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Ricketts, Wiggins, Mrs Bridgeman, Riley, Storer, Mavin, Carson, Winter, Mrs Loveridge and Cook.*

*Against the Motion (0)*

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*Abstain (1)*

*Lord Mayor*

*Absent / Did not vote (9)*

*Councillor Lowry, Penberthy, Sparling, Coker, Bowie, Singh, J Taylor, K Taylor and Fry,*

*Councillor J Taylor was absent due to interests declared*

(iv) **THE MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGE**

Councillor Mrs Bowyer proposed and Councillor Mrs Beer seconded a motion on the Mental Health Challenge.

Following a debate and vote Council agreed that –

1. This Council notes:

- a. 1 in 4 people will experience a mental health problem in any given year.
- b. The World Health Organisation predicts that depression will be the second most common health condition worldwide by 2020.
- c. Mental ill health costs some £105 billion each year in England alone.
- d. People with a severe mental illness die up to 20 years younger than their peers in the UK.
- e. There is often a circular relationship between mental health and issues such as housing, employment, family problems or debt.

2. This Council believes:

- a. As a local authority we have a crucial role to play in improving the mental health of everyone in our community and tackling some of the widest and most entrenched inequalities in health.
- b. Mental health should be a priority across all the local authority's areas of responsibility, including housing, community safety and planning.
- c. All councillors, whether members of the Cabinet or Scrutiny and in our community and casework roles, can play a positive role in championing mental health on an individual and strategic basis.

3. This Council resolves:

- a. To sign the Local Authorities' Mental Health Challenge run by Centre for Mental Health, Mental Health Foundation, Mental Health Providers Forum, Mind, Rethink Mental Illness, Royal College of Psychiatrists and YoungMinds.
- b. We commit to appoint an elected member as 'mental health champion' across the council.
- c. We will identify a member of staff from within our Office of the Director of Public Health to act as 'lead officer' for mental health.

4. the Council will also:
- a. Support positive mental health in our community, including in local schools, neighbourhoods and workplaces.
  - b. Work to reduce inequalities in mental health in our community.
  - c. Work with local partners to offer effective support for people with mental health needs.
  - d. Tackle discrimination on the grounds of mental health in our community.
  - e. Proactively listen to people of all ages and backgrounds about what they need for better mental health.
  - f. Sign up to the Time to Change pledge.

*For the motion (48)*

*Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillors Aspinall, Dann, P Davey, S Davey, Evans OBE, Hendy, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Rennie, Smith, Stevens, J Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Churchill, Darcy, Deacon, Downie, Drean, Fletcher, Foster, James, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Mrs Leaves, Dr Mahony, Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Ricketts, Wiggins, Mrs Bridgeman, Riley, Storer, Mavin, Carson, Winter, Mrs Loveridge and Cook.*

*Against the Motion (0)*

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*Abstain (1)*

*Lord Mayor*

*Absent / Did not vote (8)*

*Councillor Lowry, Penberthy, Sparling, Coker, Bowie, Singh, K Taylor and Fry,*

30. **Questions by councillors**

	From	To	Subject
1	Councillor Drean	Councillor Bowyer	Investment in public transport fleet.
2	Councillor Mrs Pengelly	Councillor Bowyer	Bus Patronage and resultant jobs.
3	Councillor McDonald	Councillor Ricketts	Union Street Road Closure.
4	Councillor Rennie	Councillor Downie	Fly posting.
5	Councillor James	Councillor Michael Leaves	Information at Scrutiny.
6	Councillor	Councillor	Improvement works at Pounds House.



	Martin Leaves	Nicholson	
7	Councillor Evans	Councillor Bowyer	Sutton Harbour bridge. (Cllr Bowyer undertook to provide a full report to the Leader of the opposition and St Peter and the Waterfront and Sutton and Mount Gould wards Councillors)
8	Councillor Jon Aspinall	Councillor Bowyer	Support available to businesses affected by bridge closures. (Cllr Bowyer undertook to provide a response in the report (above Q.7))
9	Councillor Morris	Councillor Nicholson	Impact upon Southway residents due to highway works in the north of the City.
10	Councillor Cook	Councillor Beer	Foster carers and radicalisation.
11	Councillor Stevens	Councillor Jordan	Consultation with Councillors on the registration service move to the Council House.
12	Councillor Sam Davey	Councillor Ricketts	Controlled Parking Zones (Cllr Ricketts undertook to provide a written response on timeframes for CPZ in Rectory Road and Wellington Road)

*Please note that questions, answers, supplementary questions and supplementary answers have been summarised.*