



Oversight and Governance

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MEMBERS' WRITTEN QUESTIONS AND COUNCIL ACTIONS

Members written questions and actions following Motions on Notice at Council Meetings are published on the last working Friday of every month.

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

Members' Written Questions and Council Actions

This document is updated on the last Friday of every month

1. Council Actions following Motions on Notice (Pages 1 - 6)

Members Questions

2. Clearance of Eggbuckland Drains (Pages 7 - 8)

COUNCIL ACTIONS 2019/20



The table below summarises actions taken in regards Motions on Notice (MoNs) passed at Council meetings. Some MoNs passed by full Council in 2018/19 municipal year are also included where actions remain to be undertaken.

Items which are greyed out have been completed. Hyperlinks to the original motions and any letters already published are included below. Democratic Support publish an update to Council Actions in relation to Motions on Notice on the last Friday of every month.

Meeting Date	COUNCIL MOTIONS	LEAD OFFICER	PROGRESS
2018/19 Council Actions from Motions on Notice			
19/11/18	<p><u>Commit To The Accelerated Reduction In Single-Use Plastic By 2020</u></p> <p>The City Council resolves that:</p> <p>1) All events on Plymouth City Council land will complete an Environmental Assessment prior to the event to show how single-use plastic will be eliminated, replaced by alternatives or, at least, reduced to an absolute minimum and how the maximum level of recycling of other plastics will be achieved.</p> <p>2) All Council buildings will go single-use plastic free by September 2019</p> <p>3) Building on existing commitments, the Surfers Against Sewage [SAS] community campaigns, Plymouth City Council, working with the Plastic Task Force members, will develop and introduce a city-wide voluntary code of conduct to ban single-use plastics such as plastic straws, stirrers, cutlery and single-use coffee cups that will come in to place by the end of 2019.</p>	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	<p>COMPLETE</p> <p>Environmental Assessment completed on an event by event basis, including consideration on plastic reduction; waste management; direct environmental impact and transport to events.</p> <p>All Council buildings are now single use plastic free</p> <p><u>Plan for Plastics Code of Conduct launched</u></p>
18/03/19	<p><u>Climate Emergency</u></p> <p>The City Council resolves to:</p> <p>1) Declare a 'Climate Emergency'</p> <p>2) Pledge to make Plymouth carbon neutral by 2030, and commit to working with other councils with similar ambitions</p> <p>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</p>	<p>Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure</p> <p>Head of Environmental Planning</p>	<p>COMPLETE</p> <p><u>Letter to Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth 30.04.19</u></p> <p><u>Letter to Secretary of State at the Department of BEIS 30.04.19</u></p> <p><u>Letter to Chancellor of the Exchequer 30.04.19</u></p> <p><u>Letter to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs 30.04.19</u></p>

	<p>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</p> <p>5) Continue to work with partners across the city and region to deliver this new goal through all relevant strategies and plans</p> <p>6) Report to Full Council within six months with a climate emergency action plan and new corporate carbon reduction plan</p> <p>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.</p>		<p>Actions plans approved by full Council on 16 December 2019</p>
2019/20 Council Actions from Motions on Notice			
<p>24/06/19_1</p>	<p>Veterans</p> <p><i>This motion was amended and below is the approved substantive amended motion for action.</i></p> <p>The City Council therefore resolves that the Leader of the Council should write to our MPs calling on them to continue their efforts to ensure that Armed Forces veterans are supported fully in respect of their needs post-service. Additionally, in order that the government can further consider the extension of additional protections to include service in Northern Ireland, to ask our MPs to ensure that a clear understanding is established in Parliament of the need for robust new evidence to be the principal precursor for any re-opening of previous investigations.</p>	<p>Assistant Chief Executive</p>	<p>COMPLETE</p> <p>Letter to Johnny Mercer 23.07.2019</p> <p>Letter to Luke Pollard 23.07.2019</p> <p>Letter to Gary Streater 23.07.2019</p>
<p>24/06/19_2</p>	<p>Opposition to the Scrapping of TV Licenses for Over 75s</p> <p>The City Council resolves to:</p> <p>(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.</p> <p>(2) Ask the Leader of the Council to write to the three Plymouth MPs to ask them to confirm their commitment to this important</p>	<p>Assistant Chief Executive</p>	<p>COMPLETE</p> <p>Letter to Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport 29.07.2019</p> <p>Letter to Johnny Mercer 23.07.2019</p> <p>Letter to Luke Pollard 23.07.2019</p> <p>Letter to Gary Streater 23.07.2019</p>

	measure in tackling loneliness amongst older citizens in Plymouth.		
24/06/19_3	<p><u>Food Justice</u></p> <p>The Council resolves to:</p> <p>1. Commit to food justice in Plymouth by nominating a Cabinet Member with responsibility of delivering food justice;</p> <p>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;</p> <p>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</p> <p>4) Work with existing partnerships in Plymouth to develop and implement a Food Justice Action Plan to eliminate hunger in Plymouth.</p>	Assistant Chief Executive	<p>COMPLETE</p> <p>Cabinet Member with responsibility for Food Justice is Cllr Chris Penberthy, Cabinet Member for Housing and Co-operative Development</p> <p>Letter to Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs 29.07.2019</p> <p>Scrutiny Select Committee took place on 30 October 2019</p> <p>Food justice working group to be taken forward by Cabinet Member for Housing and Co-operative development</p>
24/06/19_4	<p><u>Inclusive Education and Schools</u></p> <p><i>This motion was amended and below is the approved substantive amended motion for action.</i></p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • issuing advice formulated in accordance with DfE¹ and OFSTED guidance to schools to empower them to teach an inclusive curriculum and develop a whole school approach to embed equality; • promoting school Diversity Week (1-5th July) and encouraging Plymouth schools to participate; • work with schools and other stakeholders to support and share good practice in promoting 	Service Director for Education and Skills	<p>COMPLETE</p> <p>Letter sent to schools on 26 June 2019 from Service Director and Cabinet Member encouraging engagement in School Diversity Week; drawing attention to key guidance; and inviting schools to share best practice.</p>

¹
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/781150/Draft_guidance_Relationships_Education_Relationships_and_Sex_Education_RSE_and_Health_Education2.pdf


	<p>and delivering inclusive equality education in all schools;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support all those who work with children and young people to carry out their work free from discrimination and harassment. 		
24/06/19_5	<p><u>South West Forensics</u></p> <p>Full Council notes that:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	Service Director for Community Connections	COMPLETE
16/09/19_1	<p><u>Delivering an Airport for Plymouth</u></p> <p><i>Motion amended and approved by Council as per below.</i></p> <p>The City Council resolves to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Request the Leader of the Council to bring a report to the Cabinet setting out the next steps in progressing the policy of the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan insofar as it relates to Plymouth Airport. 2. Note that the Council has negotiated the surrender of the current Plymouth Airport lease held by Sutton Harbour Holdings which is yet to be completed. 3. Request the Chief Executive to provide updates on progress to all Members of the Council in line with the current JLP monitoring arrangements. 4. Request Plymouth’s MPs to campaign for government financial support for aviation in Plymouth. 	Strategic Director for Place	<p>COMPLETE</p> <p>The Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan is monitored annually; the effectiveness of the policy safeguarding the site of Plymouth City Airport will be assessed at the end of the first year of its operation in April 2020, with results published shortly thereafter.</p> <p>Position noted</p> <p>An update will be included as part of the annual Joint Local Plan monitoring arrangements</p> <p>Plymouth MP’s, post general election and through MP meetings will now be asked to campaign for financial support for aviation in Plymouth</p>

16/09/19_2	<p><u>Weeds in Plymouth</u></p> <p>Ask the Council Leader and Cabinet Member for the Environment to publish how the ongoing problem of weeds will be dealt with throughout Plymouth.</p>	Strategic Director for Place	<p>COMPLETE</p> <p>A full brief on proposals will be provided at the Members' Streets Services Drop-In session at the Council House on Wednesday 22 January. Officers will be able to take specific questions on weeds and wider street cleansing issues.</p>
16/09/19_3	<p><u>Congratulating Greta Thunberg</u></p> <p>Plymouth City Council congratulates Greta Thunberg and the crew of the Malizia for their successful journey and salutes Thunberg for her world changing campaign, in which children demand radical, immediate and effective action from world leaders to combat climate change. The Leader of the Council will write a letter to the Malizia crew and to Thunberg conveying this.</p>	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	<p>COMPLETE</p> <p><u>Letter to Greta Thunberg issued 09 October 2019</u></p>
16/12/19_1	<p><u>Devon and Severn Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority</u></p> <p>The City Council resolves that:</p> <p>I. The Leader of the Council will write to the Secretary of State requesting:</p> <p>a. A reassessment of the IFCA funding formula to take into account previous assessments of required officers; in addition to sea area, coastal length, and number of conservation designations; and to allocate Financial Administrative Penalties back to the IFCA</p> <p>b. That New Burden Funding be provided to Councils with enforceable environmental designations including Special Area of Conservation, Special Protected Area and Marine Conservation Zone.</p> <p>c. Local government funding is restored to 2010 levels to enable Councils to deliver public services and contribute to adequate IFCA budgets.</p>	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	In Progress
16/12/19_2	<p><u>Dementia Fund</u></p> <p>The City Council resolves to:</p> <p>I) Call on the government to address this unfairness by asking the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care to write to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care,</p>	Interim Strategic Director for People	In Progress

	<p>asking him to ensure that dementia is funded by the NHS like any other health condition through a dedicated Dementia Fund worth £2.4bn;</p> <p>2) Consider any response to this request through the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.</p>		
16/12/19_3	<p><u>Community Grants</u></p> <p>That Council requests the Cabinet Member for Finance to consider increasing the Community Grant for each Councillor from £3,500 to £5,000 in the 2020/21 Budget.</p>	Assistant Chief Executive	In Progress

MEMBER'S WRITTEN QUESTION



Member submitting the question: Cllr Ian Bowyer	
Date received by Democratic Support:	
To the Cabinet Member for Street Services	
Question: Can you please state the number and location of all drains proactively cleared in Egguckland Ward in readiness for this winter?	
Ian Bowyer	
Answer: <p>Plymouth Highways are currently working on a risk based gully cleaning programme in accordance with guidance from the Department for Transport. Whereas previously a gully crew would attempt to clear as many gullies as possible within each ward we now have a targeted cleansing programme. An inspection is undertaken by our partners, InTouch Smart Water, of every gully where the silt levels and any other potential defects are recorded. Based on this information a target cleanse is then issued to South West Highways to clean only the gullies that require work. This will, therefore, ensure our resources are directed to those assets that need attention. When gullies are identified for cleansing this will also include jetting the line to prove its integrity. If, however, the gully does not function following this work it will be identified for further investigation starting with a CCTV to ascertain the exact issue so repair works can be programmed. Over the next few years this approach will provide us with an intelligence led and evidence based programme of cyclical cleaning.</p> <p>With regard to your ward in particular I can confirm that the annual inspection was completed in September this year and the associated cleansing work has now been ordered and programmed to start this month (December). For information, a total 1294 gullies have been identified in the ward for cleaning under this cyclical approach. I am able to confirm that 324 gullies have been cleared on a reactive basis this calendar year from reports received from Councillors, the public, and our own Inspectors. For a location of the gulleys, a full list can be available upon request.</p>	
Signed:	Date: 9 December 2019
	
Councillor Sue Dann	

Written questions:

- must be submitted to the Monitoring Officer via the Democratic Support Team
- will be replied to within 10 working days
- will be published on the last Friday of each month