



**Oversight and Governance**

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

Please ask for Democratic Support  
T 01752 305155  
E [democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk)  
[www.plymouth.gov.uk](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk)  
Published 31 January 2020

## **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 - 12)**
- 2. Members Questions**

There are no Members Questions for publication this month

**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
<b>2018/19 Council Actions from Motions on Notice</b>			
19/11/18	<p><b><u><a href="#">Commit To The Accelerated Reduction In Single-Use Plastic By 2020</a></u></b></p> <p><b>The City Council resolves that:</b></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><a href="#">Plan for Plastics Code of Conduct launched</a></u></p>
18/03/19	<p><b><u><a href="#">Climate Emergency</a></u></b></p> <p><b>The City Council resolves to:</b></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><a href="#">Letter to Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth 30.04.19</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Letter to Secretary of State at the Department of BEIS 30.04.19</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Letter to Chancellor of the Exchequer 30.04.19</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Letter to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs 30.04.19</a></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><a href="#">Actions plans approved by full Council on 16 December 2019</a></p>
<b>2019/20 Council Actions from Motions on Notice</b>			
<p><b>24/06/19_1</b></p>	<p><b><a href="#">Veterans</a></b></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><a href="#">Letter to Johnny Mercer 23.07.2019</a></p> <p><a href="#">Letter to Luke Pollard 23.07.2019</a></p> <p><a href="#">Letter to Gary Streeter 23.07.2019</a></p>
<p><b>24/06/19_2</b></p>	<p><b><a href="#">Opposition to the Scrapping of TV Licenses for Over 75s</a></b></p> <p><b>The City Council resolves to:</b></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><a href="#">Letter to Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport 29.07.2019</a></p> <p><a href="#">Letter to Johnny Mercer 23.07.2019</a></p> <p><a href="#">Letter to Luke Pollard 23.07.2019</a></p> <p><a href="#">Letter to Gary Streeter 23.07.2019</a></p>

	measure in tackling loneliness amongst older citizens in Plymouth.		
24/06/19_3	<p><b><u>Food Justice</u></b></p> <p><b>The Council resolves to:</b></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><a href="#">Letter to Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs 29.07.2019</a></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><b><u>Inclusive Education and Schools</u></b></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"> <li>• issuing advice formulated in accordance with DfE<sup>1</sup> and OFSTED guidance to schools to empower them to teach an inclusive curriculum and develop a whole school approach to embed equality;</li> <li>• promoting school Diversity Week (1-5th July) and encouraging Plymouth schools to participate;</li> <li>• work with schools and other stakeholders to support and share good practice in promoting</li> </ul>	Service Director for Education and Skills	<p>COMPLETE</p> <p><a href="#">Letter sent to schools on 26 June 2019</a> 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>

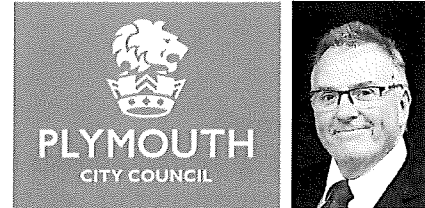
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[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/781150/Draft\\_guidance\\_Relationships\\_Education\\_Relationships\\_and\\_Sex\\_Education\\_RSE\\_and\\_Health\\_Education2.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_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"> <li>• support all those who work with children and young people to carry out their work free from discrimination and harassment.</li> </ul>		
24/06/19_5	<p><b><u>South West Forensics</u></b></p> <p><b>Full Council notes that:</b></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_6	<p><b><u>Delivering an Airport for Plymouth</u></b></p> <p><i>Motion amended and approved by Council as per below.</i></p> <p><b>The City Council resolves to:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>3. Request the Chief Executive to provide updates on progress to all Members of the Council in line with the current JLP monitoring arrangements.</li> <li>4. Request Plymouth’s MPs to campaign for government financial support for aviation in Plymouth.</li> </ol>	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_7	<p><b><u>Weeds in Plymouth</u></b></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_8	<p><b><u>Congratulating Greta Thunberg</u></b></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><b><u>Letter to Greta Thunberg issued 09 October 2019</u></b></p>
16/12/19_9	<p><b><u>Devon and Severn Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority</u></b></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	<p>COMPLETE</p> <p>Letter to Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs 28.01.20</p>
16/12/19_10	<p><b><u>Dementia Fund</u></b></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>	Strategic Director for People	<p>COMPLETE</p> <p>Letter to Secretary of State for Health and Social Care 21.01.2020</p>

	<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_11	<p><b><u>Community Grants</u></b></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





The Rt Hon Theresa Villiers  
Secretary of State for Environment, Food  
and Rural Affairs  
Seacole Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London SW1P 4DF

**Councillor Tudor Evans OBE**  
Leader of Plymouth City Council  
Labour Councillor for Ham Ward

Plymouth City Council  
Council House  
Plymouth PL1 2AA

T 01752 398618  
E [tudor.evans@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:tudor.evans@plymouth.gov.uk)  
[www.plymouth.gov.uk](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk)

28 January 2020

Dear Secretary of State

As Britain's Ocean City, Plymouth City Council takes its responsibilities towards the marine environment seriously and is committed to ensuring that marine matters are placed at the very heart of its decision making. I am therefore writing to DEFRA to seek a reassessment of the way the IFCA fund is formulated, to request that New Burdens Funding is provided to all Councils with statutory Marine Protected Areas within their IFCA and to request that local funding is restored to 2010 levels in order to enable Councils to delivery public services and contribute to adequate IFCA budgets.

Plymouth is one of England's premier fishing ports and in 2017 was the third busiest with £11million worth of fish landings, representing a value of £16million and 13% of all landings (UK sea fisheries annual statistics report 2017). The Council has an exemplar track record in terms of its support for the fishing industry; providing life jackets to fishers in 2018, and supporting the fishing industry through the Brexit process with a Select Committee that takes an overview of the industry.

The fishing industry plays a key part within the city centre, and such is the Council's commitment that it is currently undertaking a £99,000 study into the future for a modern and vibrant fishing quarter within the city.

The waters off Plymouth are some of the most diverse and vibrant of anywhere in the country and as such have national and international environmental designations including Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas and Marine Conservation Zones. For over twenty years, Plymouth City Council has hosted the Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum which delivers sustainable management and brings together the competent authorities for the European Marine Site, working in partnership with key bodies including the IFCAs, Marine Management Organisation, Natural England, Queen's Harbour Authority, Environment Agency and local and harbour authorities.

Such is the strength of feeling towards the marine environment, that in 2019, Plymouth City Council declared its intention to create the UK's first National Marine Park in order to showcase the city's unique marine assets and to deliver economic, environmental and social benefits whilst contributing directly to sustainable development.

### **Funding Formula**

Plymouth takes its responsibilities with respect to fishing very seriously and has a long history of sustainable management through its involvement with the Devon Sea Fisheries Committee, which was established in 1892. In 2009 it welcomed the creation of IFCA's to bring more effective management of inshore waters and has played a full part in the Devon and Severn IFCA right up to the current day.

Today, the Devon and Severn IFCA (D&SIFCA) is the largest of England's ten IFCA's with two coastlines separated by over 55 km of land, has an area of 4,522 sq km of which 42% are marine protected areas and yet has only four enforcement officers and three environment officers to undertake their work of research and monitoring, creating byelaws and permits and undertaking enforcement. This falls far short of DEFRA's own report of 2009 which identified the projected needs for the D&SIFCA as requiring 25 funded officers. Since then a further 12 Marine Protected Areas have been designated within the district, all requiring further management actions. Apart from the Isles of Scilly, the D&SIFCA has the smallest budget, the least number of officers and the second longest coastline of any IFCA in the country. It has the second highest number of registered fishing vessels and has the highest value of landings.

The 25 Year Environment Plan sets out clearly the need to do more to protect both our seas and marine wildlife and has a vision to ensure that seas return to health and fish stocks are replenished. A sustainable fishing industry is one which is well managed to protect biodiversity and habitats and is fair in its approach to protecting fishers and their livelihoods. The D&SIFCA has an enviable track record of where the IFCA's work hand in hand with the fishing industry with trust and collaboration. However, without the appropriate resources there will never be sufficient capacity to deliver this vision.

Enforcement is a key area of work for the D&SIFCA's with successful convictions sending an important signal to fishers that it does not pay to break the rules. However gathering evidence and building a robust case is extremely intensive work with no guarantee of success. Where convictions are successful, fines are usually small but can be as much as £12,000 with all the monies being returned to central coffers and with only very small amounts being awarded as costs. In the last five years, Plymouth City Council has seen an 85% reduction in the Revenue Support Grant received from Government and therefore finds itself in the position of being unable to accommodate any further increases in funding to the D&SIFCA. The Council therefore requests that the Government undertake a review of the IFCA funding formula to take into account previous assessments of required officers; in addition to sea area, complexity, coastal length, and number of conservation designations; and to allocate Financial Administrative Penalties back to the IFCA.

### **New Burdens Funding**

Of the eight contributing local authorities, Plymouth is one of only two that do not receive any New Burdens Funding towards their contribution towards the D&SIFCA, based purely on their responsible actions in the past in supporting its predecessor the Devon Sea Fisheries Committee. However since the inception of the D&SIFCA's three new European Sites and 13 new Marine Conservation Zones have been created placing significant new pressures on the D&SIFCA.

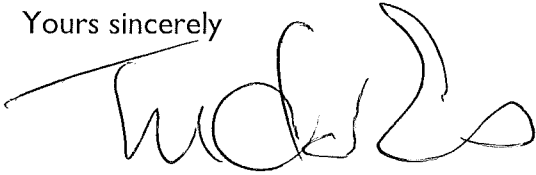
Plymouth City Council therefore requests that New Burden Funding be provided to Councils with enforceable environmental designations including Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protected Areas and Marine Conservation Zones.

**Local Government Funding**

As previously mentioned, Plymouth City Council takes its environmental responsibilities seriously and fully recognises its role in supporting the fishing economy. However with the reduction in the Revenue Support Grant, it will not be possible for the Council to play its full role in delivering on the 25 Year Environment Plan or supporting the D&SIFCA.

I am therefore requesting that local government funding is restored to 2010 levels to enable Councils to deliver public services and contribute to adequate IFCA budgets.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tudor Evans', written in a cursive style.

Councillor Tudor Evans OBE  
**Leader, Plymouth City Council**

cc.

Mike Williams, Chair of Devon and Severn IFCA

Rt Hon Robert Jenrick, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government

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The Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP  
Secretary of State  
Department of Health and Social Care  
39 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0EU

**Councillor Kate Taylor**  
Cabinet Member for Health and  
Adult Social Care

Plymouth City Council  
Council House  
Plymouth PL1 2AA

T 01752 398187  
E [kate.taylor@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:kate.taylor@plymouth.gov.uk)  
[www.plymouth.gov.uk](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk)

21 January 2020

Dear Secretary of State,

## **DEMENTIA FUNDING**

Plymouth City Council recently voted unanimously across all political parties to support a Motion on Notice regarding the funding of services to support people living with Dementia.

As you are aware there is a growing number of people in Plymouth and across the country who are living with a diagnosis of dementia. Plymouth City Council itself, through its integrated Commissioning function, funds and supports some really positive work to support people with dementia to live independently in the community. For example, Plymouth's Dementia Friendly City initiative has been nationally recognised by the Alzheimer's Society as best practice and we commission a Dementia Support Worker Service to support people on diagnosis of dementia. We have an in-house Care Quality Assurance & Improvement Team (QAiT) which implements our Dementia Quality Mark and a workforce development programme for care providers which has led to an improvement in care quality in the city and has been recognised as being excellent by the CQC.

I am incredibly proud of the way our city has come together and try and improve the lives of people living with dementia, and those caring for them. However, Plymouth City Council would like to raise the important issue of funding for those living with a dementia diagnosis with the Secretary of State. Currently the unfair funding system means that when people living with dementia need care, they face higher charges for care than those with other health conditions, many of which are free on the NHS, due to the inequity in which care for the condition is funded.

Additionally, due to the significant underfunding of local authorities, coupled with rising demand and costs for care and support, Plymouth's Adult Social Care services, along with other local authorities nationally, have been pushed to breaking point. With the Adult Social Care Green Paper promised multiple times by the government nowhere in sight and no clear, fit for purpose funding system developed for the funding of Adult Social Care in the future, I am seriously concerned that those living with a dementia diagnosis risk missing out on much needed care and support in the future because we are simply unable to afford to support everyone that we need to within the financial envelope we have to deliver our services.

Plymouth City Council believes that the system of support for people living with dementia is unfair, unsustainable and needs a long-term overhaul, to ensure that people with dementia receive affordable and high quality care when and in the manner they need it.

Therefore, Plymouth City Council is writing to you as Secretary of State, to address this unfairness and to ensure that dementia is funded by the NHS like any other health condition through a dedicated Dementia Fund worth £2.4billion. This request is supported by the Alzheimer's Society, who provide extensive help and support to those living with dementia and their loved ones.

I look forward to receiving a response to this letter in the near future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'K. Taylor', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Councillor Kate Taylor  
**Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care**