



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. Hackney Carriage Licence Plates (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			
24/06/19_1	<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>	Assistant Chief Executive	<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 Streeter 23.07.2019</p>
24/06/19_2	<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>	Assistant Chief Executive	<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 Streeter 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_6	<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_7	<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_8	<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_9	<p><u>Devon and Severn Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority</u></p> <p>The City Council resolves that:</p> <p>1. 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><u>Dementia Fund</u></p> <p>The City Council resolves to:</p> <p>1) 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>Community Grants</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	<p>COMPLETE</p> <p>Announced at Full Council 24 Feb 2020 that the Community Grant for each Councillor would increase by £500 each year for the next three years.</p>

MEMBER'S WRITTEN QUESTION

Chief Executive's Department

**Name of Member submitting the question:** Councillor JordanDate received by Democratic Support Team:

27 Jan 2020

To: Councillor Haydon (Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Customer Focus)**Question:** Why has the council changed its policy on Hackney Carriage plates when they have been returned and we are not issuing them?**Answer:**

There is a limit on the number of taxi plates and we do not have a waiting list for any plates that have been returned. The unmet demand survey has recently been completed by an external consultant, and concludes that there is no current significant unmet demand for Hackney Carriage services. The response from the trade was better than other years and the support for the limit on vehicle numbers has increased. However, the report does note that there is less vehicles at night and has suggested that this is reviewed and that the Council consider whether a higher night tariff may help shift some of the excess daytime vehicles back towards servicing the night time demand. This will be reviewed over the next 12 months by the Taxi Licensing Team to consider how the night time provision can be improved. This has been delayed going to Cabinet due to the Elections and has been scheduled to go to the next available Cabinet to be approved.

The trade were consulted on the survey and there was strong support for the limit to be kept.

There are currently 346 HC plates and the limit is 367 so there has been a reduction of 21 plates, which is a reduction of 5%. There has always been a high number of HC plates in Plymouth compared to other similar sized cities. There have been a number of plates returned this year as the owners have not been able to rent or sell the vehicles and they have reached an age where they are not economical to maintain and renew their vehicle licence when they are not in use. There is therefore no demand for these plates and the survey has advised that the limit should be reduced to the current number (346) and then apply a moratorium so that unused plates are extinguished as demand for their services continues to fall.

Signed

Date 11 February 2020

Note

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

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