



**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**

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

### **MEMBERS QUESTIONS**

There are no Members Questions to be published this month.

**COUNCIL ACTIONS 2020/21**

The table below summarises actions taken in regards Motions on Notice (MoNs) passed at Council meetings.

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.

Date	COUNCIL MOTIONS	LEAD OFFICER	PROGRESS
<b>Council Actions from Motions on Notice</b>			
16/1 1/20	<p><b><u><a href="#">A New Police Station for Plymouth</a></u></b></p> <p>Council agrees that the Leader of the Council:</p> <p>Will write to the Police and Crime Commissioner to request that the police estate requirements for the city and for its provision of significant force-wide capabilities are prioritised and given full consideration in the future police estate strategy. The purpose is to ensure Plymouth can meet its policing needs most cost-effectively and sustainably into the future.</p> <p>Will offer every assistance to the Commissioner to help coordinate and establish proposals for any new police building(s) in Plymouth. It will be vital to ensure that any proposals are integral to the wider programme of capital investment underway to drive our economic development, public safety, and sustainable future.</p>	Assistant Chief Executive	<p>COMPLETE</p> <p>Letter sent 2 February 21 to the Police and Crime Commissioner Alison Hernandez</p>
25/0 1/21	<p><b><u><a href="#">Marine Environment &amp; Fishing</a></u></b></p> <p><b>Amended to –</b></p> <p>Fishing and the Marine Environment are vitally important to the City of Plymouth and its economy.</p> <p>To specifically support our local fishing community and to protect our internationally important marine environment we call on the Leader of Plymouth City Council:</p>	Strategic Director for Place	

	<p>To write on behalf of the Council, congratulating the Prime Minister on bringing the UK in line with the EU ban on pulse fishing introduced in 2018, supporting the regulation of vessel types to protect our marine environment and sustainable fisheries, and to ask for the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. With respect to the £23m compensation fund designed to help those negatively impacted by new UK red tape and UK systems designed to comply with our new third country status, to ensure that Plymouth and the South West fishing boats, exporters and supply chain who have been greatly affected are prioritised.</li> <li>2. With respect to the £100m fund announced for infrastructure and fishing vessel renewal, to ensure that in particular Plymouth and the South West vessels and English fishing supply chain businesses and harbours who have done particularly and disproportionately badly out of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement will see increased support, to remain competitive and in business.</li> <li>3. The urgent publication of the Government's consultation responses on <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Quota allocations and management in 2021 and beyond: England and the Crown dependencies</li> <li>ii) Fisheries: strengthening the economic link licence condition in England</li> <li>iii) Fisheries: apportioning additional quota between the UK administrations: UK and the Crown dependencies.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>		ONGOING
25/0 1/21	<p><b><u>Tampon Tax</u></b> <b>Amended to -</b></p> <p>Council joins with the Chancellor in congratulating Paula Sherriff, the former Labour MP for Dewsbury, in her campaign to abolish the Tampon Tax. Further the Council welcomes the change in government policy which now means that VAT on women's sanitary products has been removed from 1st January 2021.</p> <p>Council welcomes the work that Red Box and Trevi House have done in Plymouth over a number of years to raise concerns about the Tampon Tax and in the practical steps they have taken to mitigate its impact on local women. It further welcomes the leadership taken by the Council's current Labour administration over the past two years in raising these issues and thanks Lindsey</p>	Assistant Chief Executive	

	<p>Hall for the support she is giving in working with schools to raise awareness of period poverty.</p> <p>Council recognises that there is more to do to tackle period poverty and therefore instructs the Leader of Plymouth City Council to write to the Chancellor Rishi Sunak to congratulate him on backing Paula Sherriff's calls by abolishing VAT on women's sanitary products and to ask the Chancellor to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• make it clear that that manufacturers and retailers should match this commitment by providing a price reduction for the public</li> <li>• maintain the current ring-fenced funding for projects that help disadvantaged and vulnerable women across the UK.</li> </ul>		ONGOING
25/0 1/21	<p><b><u>Supporting Student Renters and Student Landlords</u></b></p> <p><b>Amended to -</b></p> <p>Plymouth City Council notes that many students had arranged accommodation with Plymouth student landlords to attend university, but are unable to live in this accommodation due to most courses having switched to online learning and due to travel restrictions barring travel to Plymouth.</p> <p>The council further notes that these restrictions, as part of a national lockdown, are necessary to slow the spread of coronavirus and protect the capacity of the NHS.</p> <p>Noting that students, like many other people, have suffered profound economic consequences due to the necessity of these public restrictions, the Council will ask the Cabinet member for Education, Skills and Transformation to write to the UK Government, asking relevant departments to work with student landlords, both university-owned and private, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reduce student rent by forty percent for the rest of the academic year,</li> <li>• enable students who cannot occupy their accommodation to exit their contracts without penalty,</li> <li>• reimburse students who have paid in advance and cannot occupy their accommodation,</li> <li>• reimburse lost income for student landlords whose tenants cannot occupy their accommodation</li> </ul>	Director for Children's Services	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• consider allowing students who cannot work due to lockdown to claim Universal Credit</li><li>• respond to the Higher Education sector's request for government financial support for enhanced student hardship funds allowing students to receive direct financial support across the full range of financial hardships caused by the pandemic</li></ul> <p>The council notes with gratitude that Marjon University has waived rent for students that have been unable to travel to the university due to lockdown, heartily thanks Marjon for this action, and supports the University of Plymouth in addressing the same issue through its enhanced student hardship fund.</p> <p>The council also asks the Cabinet member for Education, Skills and Transformation to write to universities throughout the UK which host students from Plymouth, calling on them to adopt similar measures to support those, and all, students.</p>		ONGOING
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Sent via email

Alison Hernandez  
Police and Crime Commissioner  
Andy Hocking House  
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Exeter  
EX2 7RP

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

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2 February 2021

Dear Alison

### **Capital investment in Plymouth's policing estate**

Further to our conversations about the above, I have been asked by the City Council to place on record a formal request for you to prioritise the above. We have noted the capital investment in the police estate in Exeter, Bodmin, Liskeard, Okehampton and Camborne, and the plans for new facilities in Barnstaple. This investment in fit for purpose and energy efficient policing infrastructure is to be commended, but also highlights a growing contrast with the facilities available in Plymouth. The last new provision in the city was the Devonport local police station in 2013 which brought welcome improvements in environmental standards and operational benefits, but with no public access and without contributing significantly to the strategic policing infrastructure of the city.

As you are well aware, Plymouth is a key policing centre for the force, providing a base for around 430 uniformed officers and 35 civilian staff and individuals from partner organisations. The city also hosts units providing critical support to many force-wide capabilities including Armed Response, 999 call handling, and multi-agency functions such as the Public Protection Unit. Despite the strategic importance of these functions, the city's two main police stations at Crownhill and Charles Cross have remained largely unimproved since their construction in the 1960s and 1970s. Their design and environmental standards lag considerably behind modern expectations and their suitability for modern crime investigation, custody provision and other services is questionable.

The City Council has a strong reputation for collaborative work with partners in regenerating physical infrastructure, and has ambitious plans for responding to the climate emergency and carbon reduction targets.

We stand ready to work with your colleagues to address the fact that police infrastructure in the city is not fit for 21<sup>st</sup> century policing, and I ask you to respond positively to this offer by prioritising the modernisation of the policing infrastructure in your capital plans.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tudor Evans', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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