



**Oversight and Governance**

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Published 29 July 2021

## **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 - 16)**

**2. Members Questions**

There are no Members Questions to be published this month.

**COUNCIL ACTIONS 2021/22**

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>			
25/01/21	<p><b><u>Marine Environment &amp; Fishing</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> <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</li> </ol>	Assistant Chief Executive	<p><b>ONGOING</b></p> <p>Letter to be discussed with Cllr Nick Kelly ( Leader)</p>

	<p>i) Quota allocations and management in 2021 and beyond: England and the Crown dependencies</p> <p>ii) Fisheries: strengthening the economic link licence condition in England</p> <p>lii) Fisheries: apportioning additional quota between the UK administrations: UK and the Crown dependencies.</p>		
14/0 6/21	<p><b><u>NHS Dental Waiting lists</u></b></p> <p>On January 9<sup>th</sup> 2020 our Public Health Unit brought the Plymouth Oral Health Needs Assessment to the Health and Wellbeing Board because of the concerns for the dental health of Plymouth's residents. The report included information on the rise in the numbers of residents on the NHS dental waiting list, since then the numbers on that list has increased and last September were over 16,000.</p> <p>NHS England have produced a South West Dental Needs Assessment report but it fails to address the issues that both a Dental Scrutiny Select Committee and the Health and Wellbeing Board identified in March this year.</p> <p>Council requests that the Chief Executive urgently writes to the Secretary of State for Health and to the Children's Commissioner asking for immediate action to address the dental health needs of all Plymouth residents.</p>	Chief Executive/ Director of Public Health	<p><b>COMPLETE</b></p> <p>The Chief Executive sent a letter to –</p> <p><u><a href="#">The Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP (Secretary of State for Health and Social Care) – 23 June 2021</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Dame Rachel de Souza (Children's Commissioner for England) – 23 June 2021</a></u></p>
14/0 6/21	<p><b><u>Education Recovery Plan</u></b></p> <p>Plymouth City Council notes that:</p> <p>The Government published its plans for education recovery after the pandemic on 2nd June. Sir Kevan Collins was appointed by the Prime Minister as the Government's Education Recovery Commissioner to determine how much was needed to repair the damage done to the nation's pupils because of Covid. He judged</p>	Director of Children's Services	

	<p>it would take £15bn - the Government's recent offer of £1.4bn falls far short and is wholly inadequate. The Education Policy Institute have calculated that this amounts to £50 per pupil per year. This contrasts with £1,600 per pupil in the USA and £2,500 per pupil in the Netherlands.</p> <p>We cannot build back better from the pandemic and have an education system that supports high standards and strong mental health for everyone on the cheap.</p> <p>Separately, the Department for Education has changed the census used to calculate Pupil Premium funding for the most disadvantaged pupils. This means that £500,000 is being taken away from young people and schools most in need in our city – we are not going to level up the country on the backs of the most disadvantaged children.</p> <p>Plymouth City Council resolves:</p> <p>To lobby the Government to value and invest in all our children, so they are supported to learn, succeed, and go on to have bright futures.</p> <p>To write to the Prime Minister and call on the Government to scale up its ambition for our children and young people and give our education system the resources it needs to ensure that no child is left behind. The Government should show it is serious about levelling up by putting in the investment called for by its own former Education Recovery Commissioner.</p>		<p><b>COMPLETE</b></p> <p>The Leader sent letters to –</p> <p><a href="#">Rt Hon Gavin Williamson CBE MP</a> <a href="#">Secretary of State for Education</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP</a> <a href="#">Minister of State for School Standards</a></p>
<p><b>14/06/21</b></p>	<p><b><a href="#">Mental Health services</a></b></p> <p>The Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown has been a difficult time for all, we have seen our NHS locally coping with unprecedented pressures and we applaud their commitment and professionalism.</p> <p>However, there are also long lasting demands on the services for the mental health and wellbeing of Plymouth's residents.</p> <p>Currently the waiting time for referrals are excessive compared to neighbouring Devon. Concerns have been raised that children have been excluded from school until they have been assessed by the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services.</p>	<p>Chief Executive/ Strategic Director for People</p>	

	<p>Council requests that the Chief Executive urgently writes to the CCG Commissioners to request that increased funding be made available to strengthen the Mental Health Services in Plymouth. The service in Plymouth should receive the same funding per capita as Devon, so enabling the referral to treatment time to be comparable.</p>		<p><b>COMPLETE</b></p> <p>The Chief Executive sent a letter to –</p> <p><a href="#">Jane Milligan (Chief Executive of the Integrated Care System for Devon and NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group)</a> 22 June 2021</p>
<p><b>I 4/0 6/21</b></p>	<p><b><u><a href="#">Opting Out of NHS Patient Data Sharing With the Private Sector</a></u></b></p> <p><b>Amended to –</b></p> <p>Plymouth City Council recognises the crucial role our NHS services play in maintaining the health and well-being of our residents, and particularly their essential work during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.</p> <p>The Council notes with concern plans by the U.K. Government to pool 55 million NHS patient records, including sensitive data on mental health, into a central database that will be made available to researchers and third parties in the private sector. The Council understands that while this data will be anonymised and given “codes” by NHS Digital that can be used to reveal the identity of the data’s owners if there is a “valid legal reason”. Privacy campaigners have said the plans are “legally problematic”.</p> <p><b>The Council notes</b> with particular concern the fact that there has been little public notice or political debate about these plans, and the fact that NHS patients only have until 30 September 2021 to opt-out of this data sharing, via an online form (1).</p> <p>Understanding that a significant portion of our residents do not have reliable Internet access—particularly our residents living in poverty—the Council will undertake a prominent campaign in social media and the local press to advise Plymouth’s NHS patients about their right to opt-out of data sharing.</p> <p>1) <a href="https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-collections-and-data-sets/data-collections/general-practice-data-for-planning-">https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-collections-and-data-sets/data-collections/general-practice-data-for-planning-</a></p>	<p>Assistant Chief Executive/ Strategic Director for People</p>	<p><b>ONGOING</b></p> <p>Social media campaign ongoing and briefing has been organised for all members.</p>

	<a href="#"><u>and-research/transparency-notice#opting-out-of-nhs-digital-collecting-your-data-type-1-opt-out-</u></a>		
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Dame Rachel de Souza  
Children's Commissioner for England  
Sanctuary Buildings  
20 Great Smith Street  
London  
SW1P 3BT

**Chief Executive**

Plymouth City Council  
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**Via e-mail**

23 June 2021

**My ref: TL/RH**

Dear Dame Rachel

On Monday 14 June 2021, a Motion on Notice was passed by Plymouth City Council, instructing me to write to you to ask for immediate action to address the dental health needs of all Plymouth residents.

The issue of poor dental health has been of considerable concern to the Council, as evidenced by the issue being discussed at the Health and Wellbeing Board, Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee and at a specific Dental Scrutiny Select Committee.

Plymouth City Council's Public Health Department have prepared an Oral Health Needs Assessment; this report included information on poor dental health in adults and children, as well as the unacceptably high number of residents on the NHS dental waiting list.

This highlighted that;

- Over 11,000 adults and over 3,000 children were on the dental waiting list in Plymouth as of 1 October 2019 and this has now risen even further. People living in the most deprived areas of Plymouth are twice as likely to be on this waiting list as people in the least deprived areas.
- Over 20,000 enquiries were made for urgent dental care appointments in 2018/19. The number of enquiries from people living in the highest deprivation group was almost treble that for the lowest deprivation group.
- In Plymouth 623 children aged 16 years and under had a total of 3,557 teeth removed under General Anaesthetic in 2018/19, reflecting not just considerable dental pain, but also a huge use of NHS resources for a fully preventable disease.
- Dental practices report difficulties in recruiting dentists and providing the amount of NHS dental care they have been commissioned by NHS England to deliver. In 2017/18, the shortfall in delivery was over 20% of nearly 400,000 units of dental activity (UDAs) commissioned. It is estimated that 27,000 additional patients would have been able to access an NHS dentist in Plymouth if the full activity level had been reached.

NHS England has produced a South West Dental Needs Assessment report but it fails to address the issues that both the Dental Scrutiny Select Committee and the Health and Wellbeing Board identified in March this year, as evidenced by the Oral Health Needs Assessment.

Plymouth City Council has been proactive at identifying ways forward, working with the Peninsula Dental School of the University of Plymouth. Innovative solutions have been proposed to NHS England, which would provide dental students with the skills needed to manage and run a practice to help meet the gap in provision, whilst developing their dentistry experience; however, NHS England have not agreed to commission this.

Plymouth City Council asks for immediate action to address the dental health needs of all Plymouth residents.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tracey Lee', followed by a period.

Tracey Lee  
Chief Executive  
Plymouth City Council

Cc Rachel Pearce, NHSE



The Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP  
Secretary of State for Health and Social  
Care  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

**Chief Executive**

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**Via e-mail**

23 June 2021

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Dear Secretary of State

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Plymouth City Council asks for immediate action to address the dental health needs of all Plymouth residents.

Yours sincerely

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Tracey Lee  
Chief Executive  
Plymouth City Council

Cc Rachel Pearce, NHSE

**Rt Hon Gavin Williamson CBE MP**

Secretary of State for Education  
Department for Education  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

**Councillor Nick Kelly**

Leader of Plymouth City Council

Plymouth City Council  
Council House  
Plymouth PL1 2AA

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nick.kelly@plymouth.gov.uk  
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Dear Secretary of State

**Education Funding Levels in Plymouth**

As the recently elected Leader of Plymouth City Council I wanted to draw to your attention the funding differential between students in my City compared with schools in London. London has received an additional £800 per pupil compared to Plymouth in 2021/22, with Plymouth receiving £5,150 per pupil compared to £5,950 for the City of London.

Clearly this position disadvantages students in my city compared with communities in the Capital and would ask that you give this your urgent attention so that I can provide assurances to the communities I represent that the position will be remediated.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'N. Kelly'.

Councillor Nick Kelly  
**Leader, Plymouth City Council**

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2021-0032316POGibb

**Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP**  
Minister of State for School Standards

Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 3BT  
tel: 0370 000 2288 [www.education.gov.uk/contactus/dfe](http://www.education.gov.uk/contactus/dfe)

Councillor Nick Kelly  
Leader, Plymouth City Council  
By email: [nick.kelly@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:nick.kelly@plymouth.gov.uk)

5 July 2021

Dear Cllr Kelly,

Thank you for your letter of 24 June, addressed to the Secretary of State, regarding school funding. I am replying as the Minister of State for School Standards.

In 2021-22, mainstream school funding is increasing by 3.5 per cent overall. The national funding formula (NFF) continues to distribute this fairly, based on the needs of schools and their pupil cohorts. The NFF is increasing school funding and delivering resources where they are needed most, while ensuring that every school is attracting at least 2 per cent more pupil led funding per pupil.

Every primary school will receive at least £4,000 per pupil, and every secondary school at least £5,150 per pupil. All schools will also receive extra funding to cover additional teachers' pay and pension costs. This adds a further £180 and £265 respectively to the minimum per pupil amounts. We have made the use of the national minimum per pupil funding levels compulsory for authorities to deliver in 2021-22 to assure head teachers that they receive at least these levels locally.

Plymouth City Council is receiving an extra £6.7 million for schools this year, an increase of 3.9 per cent per pupil, excluding growth funding. This takes total funding for 2021-22 in Plymouth to over £178.6 million, including additional funding to meet increased costs of teachers' pay and pensions.

The purpose of the NFF is not to give every school the same level of per pupil funding. It is right that schools with more pupils with additional needs, such as those indicated by measures of deprivation, low prior attainment, or English as an additional language, receive extra funding to help ensure that schools are supported to meet the needs of all their pupils. In addition, schools in more expensive areas, such as London, have higher funding per pupil than other parts of the country to reflect the higher costs they face.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick Gold". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "N" and "G".





Jane Milligan  
Chief Executive of the Integrated Care  
System for Devon and NHS Devon Clinical  
Commissioning Group

**Chief Executive**

Plymouth City Council  
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22 June 2021

Dear Jane,

At a recent meeting of our City Council on the 14 June 2021, a Motion on Notice was approved on Mental Health Services.

The substance of the Motion was the provision and funding of Mental Services within Plymouth. The concerns raised awareness of excess waiting times for both Adults and Children accessing services. In addition, it highlighted that Plymouth receives less per capita funding for Mental Health Services than the rest of Devon.

We appreciate that some significant work is already underway in this area most of which will be led going forward by the Plymouth Local Care Partnership. Examples include the roll out of Crisis Cafes, work to ensure physical health checks are offered for individuals with eating disorders, further development of enhanced primary care teams through the ICP procurement ensuring that mental health needs are addressed in our communities and the significant work already in progress as part of our complex lives alliance in the City. In addition we are enthusiastic about the rollout of the Community Mental Health Framework this is a transformational opportunity to enhance and expand how we provide community services to the people of Devon and Plymouth. We also recognise that the CCG have made a commitment to address the long standing "Fair Share" issue and plans are coming forward via the Local Care Partnership around maximising this investment for this year including initiatives to support the wider health and wellbeing agenda locally.

We know services are already under pressure and our recent Mental Health Needs Assessment clearly highlights that COVID 19 and the legacy of the pandemic will have further negative impacts on the mental health and wellbeing of our populations.

As such as a system we all know we will need to do more in this important area and as Chair of the Plymouth Local Care Partnerships I will do all I can to prioritise this agenda. But we also appreciate that Devon Clinical Commissioning Group have a pivotal role to play and I would be grateful if you could outline your plans to reduce waiting times for both Children's and Adults' and set down how investment in Mental Health Service will be increased in order that is comparable to other areas of Devon.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tracey Lee', with a small dot at the end.

Tracey Lee  
Chief Executive