

Public Document Pack



TRAFFORD COUNCIL

13 January 2015

Trafford Town Hall
Talbot Road
Stretford
M32 0TH

Dear Councillor,

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the Council of the Borough of Trafford on **WEDNESDAY, 21 JANUARY 2015**, at **7.00 P.M.** in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, TRAFFORD TOWN HALL, TALBOT ROAD, STRETFORD**, for the transaction of the business set out below:

- | | Pages |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Minutes | |
| To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 12 November 2014 and the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on 10 December 2014, for signature by the Mayor as Chairman. | 1 - 18 |
| 2. Announcements | |
| To receive any announcements from the Mayor, Leader of the Council, Members of the Executive, Chairmen of Scrutiny Committees and the Head of Paid Service. | |
| 3. Questions By Members | |
| This is an opportunity for Members of Council to ask the Mayor, Members of the Executive or the Chairman of any Committee or Sub-Committee a question on notice under Procedure Rule 10.2. | |
| 4. Changes to the Membership of Committees | |
| To note that the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council agreed the following changes to the Membership of Committees, with effect from 6 January 2015: | |
| (a) Councillor Mrs. Reilly replaced Councillor Sharp on Planning Development Control Committee; and | |
| (b) Councillor Sharp replaced Councillor Mrs. Reilly on Scrutiny Committee. | |

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5. Changes to the Council Tax Support Scheme for 2015/16

To consider a joint report of the Executive Member for Finance and the Director of Finance referred from the Executive meeting held on 21 January 2015. 19 - 24

6. Appointment of the Independent Member to the Standards Committee

To consider a joint report of the Chairman of Standards Committee and the Director of Legal and Democratic Services / Monitoring Officer. 25 - 26

7. Motions

To consider the following motions submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 11:

(a) Motion Submitted by the Labour Group - Impact of Children, Families and Wellbeing Cuts

This Council calls on the government to recognise the damaging effects of the austerity cuts to councils. In particular in Trafford we note with concern three service areas which have now been identified as high risk:

- Failure of safeguarding services - risk has increased from medium to high
- Major event leading to inability to deliver critical services to vulnerable people - risk has increased from medium to high
- Adult social care is at high risk because of the inability to implement a wide range of savings proposals in the current economic climate

In light of the fact that this Council faces huge budget pressures over the next three years with further cuts of £57 million (£25 million in 2015/2016), this Council calls on the government to halt the cuts which if implemented will seriously affect the health and wellbeing of Trafford's most vulnerable children and adults.

(b) Motion Submitted by the Labour Group - School Crossing Patrols

This Council calls on the Executive to reconsider the proposals to scrap thirty-one school crossing patrols, and notes:

- these patrols operate on busy and dangerous roads, and have actually been instrumental in preventing accidents over many years;
- that many of these patrols were actually put in place onto an existing light controlled crossing following dangerous or fatal incidents;

continued ...

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- Council is concerned that the scrapping of these patrols will have a detrimental effect on road safety across the Borough.

In light of the huge public outcry/response to the published proposals to abolish the thirty-one crossing patrols, Council believes it is right and proper that the Executive is asked to reconsider the proposal with a view to reversing its previous decision.

(c) **Motion Submitted by the Labour Group - Local Government Funding**

This Council notes the letter signed by more than 100 Council Leaders across the country calling for an improved funding settlement for Local Government in the 2014 Autumn Statement (Observer, 30 November 2014). Given the sustained and severe cuts to local government enacted throughout this Parliament – over and above any other government department – Council is supportive of the content of this letter and therefore extremely disappointed that the Leader of the Council did not choose to add his signature. Council also notes with regret that the continued reductions in local government budgets will leave Trafford services at breaking point, and calls on the Leader of the Council to support any further cross-party letters from local government leaders expressing concern about the impact of more cuts to council funding.

(d) **Motion Submitted by the Conservative Group - Small Business Rate Relief**

The Council welcomes the decision of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to offer business rates support for 30,000 small businesses based on the high street.

The Chancellor announced in the Autumn Statement an additional £500 business rate discount for retail and food and drink business, offering additional support to Trafford's town centres.

This takes the total discount from the current £1,000 to £1,500 in 2015 to 2016 and reduces the cost of business rates on the high street.

Council notes the importance of business rate growth as a revenue stream to overcome future fiscal challenges and resolves to encourage take up of the discount and to continue supporting small businesses in Trafford.

Yours sincerely,



THERESA GRANT
Chief Executive

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Membership of the Council

Councillors E. Malik (Mayor), J. Holden (Deputy Mayor), D. Acton, S. Adshead, S. Anstee, Dr. K. Barclay, J. Baugh, J. Bennett, Miss L. Blackburn, R. Bowker, C. Boyes, H. Boyle, Mrs. A. Bruer-Morris, Mrs. J.E. Brophy, B. Brotherton, D. Bunting, D. Butt, C. Candish, K. Carter, R. Chilton, Mrs. L. Cooke, M. Cordingley, M. Cornes, J. Coupe, L. Dagnall, Mrs. P. Dixon, A. Duffield, Mrs. L. Evans, N. Evans, T. Fishwick, M. Freeman, P. Gratrix, J. Harding, D. Higgins, M. Hyman, C. Hynes, D. Jarman, P. Lally, J. Lamb, J. Lloyd, A. Mitchell, P. Myers, D. O'Sullivan, I. Platt, K. Procter, J.R. Reilly, Mrs J. Reilly, B. Rigby, T. Ross, M. Sephton, B. Sharp, B. Shaw, J. Smith, E.W. Stennett, S. Taylor, L. Walsh, Mrs. V. Ward, A. Western, D. Western, M. Whetton, A. Williams, M. Young and Mrs. P. Young

Further Information

For help, advice and information about this meeting please contact:

Ian Cockill, Democratic Services Officer

Tel: 0161 912 1387

Email: ian.cockill@trafford.gov.uk

This Summons was issued on **Tuesday, 13 January 2015** by the Legal and Democratic Services Section, Trafford Council, Trafford Town Hall, Talbot Road, Stretford M32 0TH

Any person wishing to photograph, film or audio-record a public meeting is requested to inform Democratic Services in order that necessary arrangements can be made for the meeting.

Please contact the Democratic Services Officer 48 hours in advance of the meeting if you intend to do this or have any queries.

TRAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

12 NOVEMBER 2014

PRESENT

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Ejaz Malik), in the Chair.

J. Holden	M. Cornes	I. Platt
D. Acton	J. Coupe	K. Procter
S. Adshead	L. Dagnall	J.R. Reilly
S. Anstee	Mrs. P. Dixon	Mrs J. Reilly
Dr. K. Barclay	A. Duffield	B. Rigby
J. Baugh	Mrs. L. Evans	T. Ross
J. Bennett	N. Evans	M. Sephton
Miss L. Blackburn	T. Fishwick	B. Sharp
R. Bowker	M. Freeman	J. Smith
C. Boyes	P. Gratrix	E.W. Stennett
Mrs. A. Bruer-Morris	J. Harding	S. Taylor
Mrs. J.E. Brophy	D. Higgins	L. Walsh
B. Brotherton	M. Hyman	Mrs. V. Ward
D. Bunting	C. Hynes	A. Western
D. Butt	D. Jarman	D. Western
C. Candish	P. Lally	M. Whetton
K. Carter	J. Lamb	A. Williams
R. Chilton	J. Lloyd	M. Young
Mrs. L. Cooke	A. Mitchell	Mrs. P. Young
M. Cordingley	D. O'Sullivan	

In attendance

Chief Executive	Ms. T. Grant
Corporate Director Children, Families and Wellbeing	Mrs. D. Brownlee
Corporate Director Economic Growth, Environment and Infrastructure	Mrs. H. Jones
Acting Corporate Director Transformation and Resources	Ms. J. Hyde
Director of Finance	Mr. I. Duncan
Director of Legal and Democratic Services	Ms. J. Le Fevre
Head of Legal (Community)	Mr. H. Khan
Head of Legal (Environment)	Mr. L. Patel
Head of Partnerships and Communities	Ms. K. Purnell
Democratic and Performance Services Manager	Mr. P. Forrester
Workforce Strategy Officer	Ms. K. Sturman
Democratic Services Officer	Mr. I. Cockill

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors H. Boyle, P. Myers and B. Shaw.

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46. MINUTES

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 17 September 2014, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

47. ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) Councillor Duffield

The Mayor was pleased to announce that Councillor Anne Duffield was admitted as a Freeman of the City of York at the city's Guildhall on 6 October 2014. The Council conveyed its congratulations to Councillor Duffield, the fourth generation and first woman in her family to be accepted as a Freeman of York.

(b) Welcome

The Leader of the Council welcomed Will Mitchell, a pupil at Altrincham Grammar School, who was studying politics and gaining an experience of the Council that day.

(c) Healthier Together Update

Further to the previous meeting of the Council held on 17 September 2014 (Minute No 42 refers), the Leader of the Council reported on the response he had received from Lord Howe, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Quality concerning the Healthier Together consultation process.

Lord Howe noted the concerns the Council had about the process and mentioned that Healthier Together was a local NHS consultation process and the Government was clear that the provision of health services was a matter for the local NHS. Lord Howe had shared the Council's concerns with NHS England and the Chief Executive and the Leader had met with Mike Burrows, Director of the Greater Manchester Area Team to discuss the concerns further.

The Parliamentary Under Secretary of State had been advised by the local NHS that Healthier Together did not propose that any A&E departments should be downgraded or close and that the proposals covered the most seriously ill patients in A&E, acute medicine and acute surgery, having an impact on an estimated 1 in 25 of the Greater Manchester population. In respect of changes at Trafford General Hospital, the local NHS had advised that it had 3 neighbouring teaching hospitals with A&E departments, 2 of which would be specialist hospitals under all of the options proposed and the third hospital, University Hospital of South Manchester, could be either a specialist or local hospital. The local NHS believed that Healthier Together did not conflict with any commitments made as part of the previous Trafford consultation.

Lord Howe's letter concluded that no final decisions had been taken by the NHS on the Healthier Together proposals and that the process was led by Manchester clinicians working to design services to improve quality and sustainability and

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ensure improved outcomes for patients. He encouraged the Council to continue to engage with the local NHS as the Healthier Together programme progressed.

(d) Councillor Acton

The Leader of the Council was aware of some news concerning the Leader of the main Opposition and invited Councillor Acton to address the Council, whereby he announced that he was standing down as Leader of the Labour Group.

Councillor Acton indicated that after 17 years as Leader of the Group, including 7 years as Leader of the Council and 5 years as Deputy Group Leader beforehand, it was becoming difficult to manage his other roles as Chair of the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service and most recently the Labour lead on the Local Government Association for fire nationally. After careful deliberation he announced his decision to colleagues and had decided to formally step down that evening.

Councillor Acton thanked all Members and officers past and present for the goodwill shown to him and hoped that it would continue.

Councillor Anstee, Leader of the Council placed on record his Groups thanks and appreciation for the manner in which he had worked and wished Councillor Acton well with his roles on the Fire and Rescue Service and the Local Government Association.

Councillor Bowker, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group thanked Councillor Acton for his support, reflected that they had worked well on numerous occasions and wished him well in his duties.

On behalf of the Council's Officers, the Chief Executive also thanked Councillor Acton for his time and patience and wished him well for the future.

(e) Scrutiny Work Programme

Councillor Mitchell, Chairman of Scrutiny Committee announced that the arrangements for the forthcoming budget scrutiny were in place and that Members would be scrutinising the proposals over the next few weeks. The findings from meetings arranged for 17 November and 8 December would be submitted to the Executive before Christmas.

In January 2015, Scrutiny would be looking at the proposals for Joint Venture and Councillor Mitchell wished to thank the officers for the briefing Members had recently received.

48. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

The Mayor reported that 2 questions had been received under Procedure Rule 10.2.

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- (a) Councillor Freeman asked the following question for which he had given notice:

“I have previously asked a range of questions both here in this chamber and by way of email on the subject of Home to School Transport arrangements. Whilst I am grateful of the comprehensive answers provided so far, I remain extremely concerned that the new HTST arrangements do not appear to have adequate clear safeguarding arrangements built into them to monitor and assess risk for the journeys being undertaken daily and monitor whether all those working with our Special Needs Children have the necessary Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks in place. Can you please explain to me your understanding of these arrangements?”

In response to the question, Councillor Cornes the Executive Member for Children’s Services confirmed that as part of the new Home to School arrangements, safeguarding recommendations had been implemented with revised service standards in place and monitoring of quality standards established. The Executive Member assured the Council that he had confidence in the safeguarding arrangements and that where specific difficulties had been identified information had been sought from experts.

Councillor Cornes also advised that in tendering for contracts, service providers supply assurances on compliance with Council requirements and it was a contractual requirement for DBS checks to be made on drivers employed on contracts.

Scrutiny Committee was seeking to review changes to the contractual arrangements and the Executive Member had accepted a request to participate in the process.

Councillor Freeman maintained that there were issues around compliance and asked as a supplementary question why the Council had not in place a generic risk assessment for a safe transport arrangements and whether it could be considered and one put in place?

In response Councillor Cornes re-affirmed that procedures were in place and suggested that the Scrutiny process, with which he was engaging, would be the arena in which to discuss this further.

- (b) Councillor Mrs. Brophy asked the following question for which she had given notice:

“Residents have increasingly been contacting me about the lack of thought some people have when dropping off or picking up on the school run. Especially where cars are parking close to exits on main roads such as Park Road in Timperley. Local residents tell me that there are many potential accidents waiting to happen.

I am aware that Parking Services will now ask the Enforcement Officers to place some 'Pavements are for People' leaflets on the offending cars.

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The police can get involved if vehicles are causing an obstruction. Would the Executive Member let me know if any meetings are planned with Police Officers to enforce this parking issue that is widespread across Trafford? After all 'Pavements are for People'."

Councillor Lamb, Executive Member for Communities and Partnerships advised that every day Civil Enforcement Officers carried out up to 5 visits at schools on a rota basis, with most schools getting a visit every two weeks. Visits lasted for up to 30 minutes, varying between a.m. and p.m. and involved the monitoring of the parking restrictions at the school, usually the schools keep clear zigzags and any yellow line restrictions, which carry an instant penalty.

Pavement parking was a common problem and when complaints were received leaflets were placed on vehicles that obstruct the use of the footpath for pedestrians. This leaflet was also widely used across the borough especially where there were no parking restrictions in place.

Councillor Lamb indicated that the Police can and do get involved when a parked vehicle is causing an obstruction and he would bring the issue to the attention of the Police, however, their involvement was on a case by case basis and only when a vehicle was causing a serious hazard to pedestrians and motorists.

In terms of poor parking at and around schools, the Executive Member recognised that in many cases the problems were caused by the parents of children and he believed that effective things could be done by concerned parents and Governing Bodies. Members were informed that, in partnership with Trafford's Road Safety Team, a small group of school children work with the Civil Enforcement Officer at Seymour Park School to issue children's parking notices to warn drivers not to park on markings at schools for the safety of children and other pedestrians. The children were given a special uniform to wear whilst patrolling and were very keen to prevent illegal parking. It was anticipated that something similar could be extended to more schools in the Borough.

Councillor Brophy was grateful for the response and welcoming the scheme at Seymour Park School, asked as a supplementary question, what could be done to roll it out around Trafford? Councillor Lamb believed it to be a fantastic idea and as work to extend the scheme to more schools was being considered was happy to gather the details and share them with Councillor Brophy.

49. DESIGNATION OF STATUTORY SCRUTINY OFFICER AND DEPUTY MONITORING OFFICER

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services submitted a report regarding the designation of officers to the roles of Statutory Scrutiny Officer and Deputy Monitoring Officer.

RESOLVED –

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- (1) That the Democratic and Performance Services Manager be designated as the Council's Statutory Scrutiny Officer.
- (2) That the Council notes that the Head of Legal (Community) will act as the Council's Deputy Monitoring Officer.

50. POLLING DISTRICT AND POLLING PLACES REVIEW

The Chief Executive submitted a report setting out proposals to enable the Council to comply with its statutory duty to review all Parliamentary polling districts and polling places and to review all local government polling districts and polling places at the same time.

After being moved and seconded, the report's recommendations were put to the vote and declared carried.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the Final Review Proposals for polling districts and polling places, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report, be approved.
- (2) That responsibility for the on-going review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations between the four yearly reviews, be delegated to the Electoral Registration Officer in consultation with the Group Leaders.

51. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE LABOUR GROUP - FRACKING

Further to Minute No. 32 of the meeting held on 16 July 2014, it was moved and seconded that:

“This Council opposes changes to the trespass laws in the Queens speech which will allow companies involved in fracking, which pumps water and chemicals in to shale rock deep underground to release methane gas, to drill under homes without needing permission.

These laws hastily changed at the same time as a recent poll showed 75% public are opposed to fracking.

Public concerns raised include risk of earth tremors, contamination of ground and surface water, release of greenhouse gases and noise pollution for residents living in the vicinity. All these are genuine concerns, whilst at the same time it is recognised that the most optimistic forecast suggest that shale drilling could meet no more than 10% of European gas demand by 2030. The fact is that any long term damage to our environment would be irreversible, as we see now in America with hundreds of abandoned wells.

We strongly believe we should be listening to the views of local people and the evidence in relation to health and safety and that our duty as a council is to protect the health and wellbeing of our residents and oppose fracking and coal bed extraction of methane gas in Trafford.”

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It was moved and seconded as an amendment that:

“Public concerns about fracking, that is the hydraulic fracturing of shale rock to recover gas and oil, include the risk of earth tremors, contamination of ground and surface water, the release of 'greenhouse' gases and noise pollution for residents living in the vicinity. All these are genuine concerns, and the public remains divided on the merits or otherwise, of 'fracking'.

Consequently, in considering any future 'fracking' applications (of which none have so far been received in Trafford), this Council believes that we should listen to the views of local people, and the evidence in relation to health and safety, as it is our duty to protect the health and wellbeing of our residents. In addition, Council notes that all planning applications are considered in accordance with procedure which includes the views of residents.

The Council will not be supportive of 'fracking' until such time as satisfactory evidence or beneficial community interest can be provided to allay public concerns.”

The mover and seconder of the Motion signified acceptance of the amendment, subject to intensification of the Council's opposition to fracking in the final paragraph. The mover and seconder of the amendment also signified their consent to the alteration of the amendment as follows:

“Public concerns about fracking, that is the hydraulic fracturing of shale rock to recover gas and oil, include the risk of earth tremors, contamination of ground and surface water, the release of 'greenhouse' gases and noise pollution for residents living in the vicinity. All these are genuine concerns, and the public remains divided on the merits or otherwise, of 'fracking'.

Consequently, in considering any future 'fracking' applications (of which none have so far been received in Trafford), this Council believes that we should listen to the views of local people, and the evidence in relation to health and safety, as it is our duty to protect the health and wellbeing of our residents. In addition, Council notes that all planning applications are considered in accordance with procedure which includes the views of residents.

The Council is opposed to 'fracking' until such time as it can be proved to be safe.”

Consequently, the amendment, as altered was agreed with the unanimous consent of the Council and as such, the substantive Motion was declared carried.

RESOLVED: That public concerns about fracking, that is the hydraulic fracturing of shale rock to recover gas and oil, include the risk of earth tremors, contamination of ground and surface water, the release of 'greenhouse' gases and noise pollution for residents living in the vicinity. All these are genuine concerns, and the public remains divided on the merits or otherwise, of 'fracking'.

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Consequently, in considering any future 'fracking' applications (of which none have so far been received in Trafford), this Council believes that we should listen to the views of local people, and the evidence in relation to health and safety, as it is our duty to protect the health and wellbeing of our residents. In addition, Council notes that all planning applications are considered in accordance with procedure which includes the views of residents.

The Council is opposed to 'fracking' until such time as it can be proved to be safe.

52. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE CONSERVATIVE GROUP - MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE CHARTER

It was moved and seconded that:

"The Motor Neurone Disease (MND) Association has recently launched a Charter to gain support for individuals with MND to work towards their vision of the right care, in the right time and at the right place for those with MND and their carers.

Having examined the Charter it is proposed that this Council signs up to the Charter to show we understand the principals involved and support them."

Members spoke in favour of the Motion and Councillor Michael Young, Executive Member for Adult Social Services and Community Wellbeing, indicated he would advise Councillor Baugh of the number of cases in Trafford.

The Motion was agreed with the unanimous consent of the Council.

RESOLVED: That the Motor Neurone Disease (MND) Association has recently launched a Charter to gain support for individuals with MND to work towards their vision of the right care, in the right time and at the right place for those with MND and their carers.

Having examined the Charter it is proposed that this Council signs up to the Charter to show we understand the principals involved and support them.

53. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE LABOUR GROUP - STAMFORD BROOK

It was moved and seconded that:

"This Council notes the emergence and subsequent rapid growth of the Stamford Brook area in recent years. Sustainable developments such as Stamford Brook are key to providing the family homes that we need to meet increased demand over the next few years. However, it is imperative that such family-orientated developments are properly integrated in to the local community and that the safety of residents is paramount. Traffic management and road safety play a key part in ensuring this.

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Trafford Council understands the growing concern of Stamford Brook residents, the Stamford Brook Residents Association and local councillors about speeding, highway maintenance and crime in the area. To this end the Authority resolves to:

- Implement traffic calming measures on Turnbull Road and Stamford Brook Road to reduce the speed of motorists utilising Turnbull Road as an alternative route from the A56 to Sinderland Road;
- Provide a safe crossing point on Turnbull Road near to the junction with Rosefinch Road, accepting that this road must be successfully traversed by any child walking from Stamford Brook to Broadheath Primary School;
- Prioritise the adoption of all outstanding roads in the Stamford Brook area, thereby ensuring that streetlights will be maintained by the Council;
- Increase public safety and provide a deterrent to criminals who have targeted the area for burglaries in recent months;
- Consult with residents with a view to introducing a 20mph speed limit on residential roads in the Stamford Brook area, in recognition of the fact that this is primarily a family development inhabited by a large number of young families with children."

It was moved and seconded as an amendment that:

This Council notes the expansion of the Stamford Brook estate development and its continued growth and popularity.

Sustainable developments such as this are required to provide the family homes that we need to meet increased demand over the coming years.

The Council recognises the need to ensure that family orientated developments such as this are properly integrated and that measures are taken to ensure the safety of residents, both in the community and on local roads.

Trafford Council understands the representations made by residents, members, and the Stamford Brook Residents Association about speeding, highway maintenance and crime.

The Council therefore resolves to:

1. To complete its review of traffic calming measures on Turnbull Road and Stamford Brook Road to reduce the speed of motorists using the area as an alternative route from the A56 to Sinderland Road;
2. To implement, subject to a safety assessment, a safe crossing point on Turnbull Road, taking into account representations and professional advice received on the most effective location, and will endeavour to secure funding in the capital programme to facilitate this;

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3. To work with Greater Manchester Police to alleviate concerns raised in relation to burglary, in consultation with ward members;
4. To work with the developer to prioritise the adoption of all outstanding roads, thereby ensuring street lights are maintained by the Council.

The Council is committed to ensuring Stamford Brook remains an attractive place to live for families.

Following a debate on the matter, the amendment was agreed with the general consent of the Council and as such, the substantive Motion was declared carried.

RESOLVED: That this Council notes the expansion of the Stamford Brook estate development and its continued growth and popularity.

Sustainable developments such as this are required to provide the family homes that we need to meet increased demand over the coming years.

The Council recognises the need to ensure that family orientated developments such as this are properly integrated and that measures are taken to ensure the safety of residents, both in the community and on local roads.

Trafford Council understands the representations made by residents, members, and the Stamford Brook Residents Association about speeding, highway maintenance and crime.

The Council therefore resolves to:

1. To complete its review of traffic calming measures on Turnbull Road and Stamford Brook Road to reduce the speed of motorists using the area as an alternative route from the A56 to Sinderland Road;
2. To implement, subject to a safety assessment, a safe crossing point on Turnbull Road, taking into account representations and professional advice received on the most effective location, and will endeavour to secure funding in the capital programme to facilitate this;
3. To work with Greater Manchester Police to alleviate concerns raised in relation to burglary, in consultation with ward members;
4. To work with the developer to prioritise the adoption of all outstanding roads, thereby ensuring street lights are maintained by the Council.

The Council is committed to ensuring Stamford Brook remains an attractive place to live for families.

54. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE LABOUR GROUP - CLOSURE OF YOUTH PROVISION

It was moved and seconded that:

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“This Council views with dismay the Council Executive proposals to close ALL of Trafford Youth Centres and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Centre, along with four more Children Centres, as well as the discontinuation of holiday play schemes, the withdrawal of the Outdoor Education Team, Street Based Youth Work Teams – and to provide only the minimum statutory duty for Connexions and the Education Welfare services.

Clearly Trafford Council has a responsibility and duty to back and support the next generation, and the future of our young people must be paramount and our top priority. Therefore we call on the Council Executive to reconsider its proposal for the mass closure of children and youth provision in Trafford.”

It was moved and seconded as an amendment that:

“This Council regrets the proposals issued for consultation to overcome the fiscal challenge it faces, to close all of Trafford’s open access youth centres and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Centre, along with four more children centres, as well as the discontinuation of holiday play schemes, the withdrawal of the Outdoor Education Team, Street Based Youth Work Teams and to provide only the minimum statutory duty for Connexions and the Education Welfare services.

We recognise the Early Years Intervention proposal targets remaining provision at the most vulnerable young people, and is similar to that put forward by Labour controlled Oldham.

Trafford Council recognises it has a responsibility and duty to back and support the next generation, and the future of our young people must be paramount and a key priority for the Borough.

Therefore we resolve that all Members will fully engage with the current consultation with a view to identifying alternative delivery models that both enable the necessary financial savings to be made and ensure that sustainable youth provision is maintained.

In addition, the Council Executive will work with partners across the Borough to mitigate the impact of the proposals should they proceed.

At conclusion of the consultation period, the Council Executive would then be able to consider its proposals for the future youth provision in Trafford on a fully informed basis taking into consideration all feedback received.”

[Note: During the debate on the amendment, the time being 8.49 p.m., the Mayor indicated that all speeches on this item would now be limited to a maximum of one minute per speaker.]

Following a debate on the matter, the amendment was put to the vote and declared carried. The substantive Motion was then put to the vote and declared carried.

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RESOLVED: That this Council regrets the proposals issued for consultation to overcome the fiscal challenge it faces, to close all of Trafford's open access youth centres and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Centre, along with four more children centres, as well as the discontinuation of holiday play schemes, the withdrawal of the Outdoor Education Team, Street Based Youth Work Teams and to provide only the minimum statutory duty for Connexions and the Education Welfare services.

We recognise the Early Years Intervention proposal targets remaining provision at the most vulnerable young people, and is similar to that put forward by Labour controlled Oldham.

Trafford Council recognises it has a responsibility and duty to back and support the next generation, and the future of our young people must be paramount and a key priority for the Borough.

Therefore we resolve that all Members will fully engage with the current consultation with a view to identifying alternative delivery models that both enable the necessary financial savings to be made and ensure that sustainable youth provision is maintained.

In addition, the Council Executive will work with partners across the Borough to mitigate the impact of the proposals should they proceed.

At conclusion of the consultation period, the Council Executive would then be able to consider its proposals for the future youth provision in Trafford on a fully informed basis taking into consideration all feedback received.

55. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE LABOUR GROUP - TRAFFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL

[Note: Prior to the debate on this item, the time being 9.07 p.m., the Mayor indicated that for the remainder of the meeting all speeches would now be limited to a maximum of one minute per speaker.]

[Note: Councillor Adshead declared a prejudicial interest in this matter, given that he is employed by Trafford General Hospital and left the meeting during consideration of this matter.]

It was moved and seconded that:

“This Council is extremely concerned to learn that a programme of job losses has been announced at Trafford General Hospital which will lead to redundancies amongst support staff. This latest announcement follows quick on the heels of the downgrading of Accident and Emergency and other services at the hospital last year. No public consultation has been carried out in consideration of this latest action taken by the Hospital Trust.

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12 November 2014**

We therefore call on the Council to write to the Hospital Trust asking that the redundancy notices be withdrawn until such time as meaningful and thorough public consultation has taken place.”

Following a debate on the matter, the Motion was put to the vote and declared lost.

56. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE CONSERVATIVE GROUP - NORTHERN POWERHOUSE

It was moved and seconded that:

“This Council welcomes the announcement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to create a Northern Powerhouse, capable of performing on an international stage to create jobs and growth for everybody that lives in the North of England.

Council notes steps taken to ensure progress is made in this endeavour including the notion that an HS3 East to West line would increase capacity and shorten journey times between Greater Manchester and Leeds.

Members acknowledge the offer made in the Greater Manchester Agreement, which is to be debated in the coming months.

The Council recognises the support of senior Labour Council Leaders in ensuring a Conservative Chancellor after the next General Election as the only option in securing this future Northern Powerhouse vision and agrees entirely with that support.”

Following a debate on the matter, the Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

RESOLVED: That this Council welcomes the announcement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to create a Northern Powerhouse, capable of performing on an international stage to create jobs and growth for everybody that lives in the North of England.

Council notes steps taken to ensure progress is made in this endeavour including the notion that an HS3 East to West line would increase capacity and shorten journey times between Greater Manchester and Leeds.

Members acknowledge the offer made in the Greater Manchester Agreement, which is to be debated in the coming months.

The Council recognises the support of senior Labour Council Leaders in ensuring a Conservative Chancellor after the next General Election as the only option in securing this future Northern Powerhouse vision and agrees entirely with that support.

**Meeting of the Council
12 November 2014**

**57. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE CONSERVATIVE GROUP - PLEDGE OF HOPE
- GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

It was moved and seconded that:

“This Council is supportive of the following pledge and requests that the Chief Executive write to the Police and Crime Commissioner to indicate as such.

We stand up for hope in our communities, not the fear and hatred extremists would use to divide us.

We vow to import peace, never to export conflict.

We are proud of our city and region.

We celebrate our common heritage of peaceful radical protest to achieve social progress and justice.

We uphold the right to peaceful protest as essential in a healthy democracy.

However, we will stand up to those who try to use protest to divide or threaten our people and whip up intolerance, violence and hatred.

We gain strength from the diversity of our people.

We pledge:

- *To promote positive relationships between all communities and reject and condemn any form of discrimination, violence or harassment to any member of our communities.*
- *In exercising the right to demonstrate and protest, we will not do anything to generate hostility or division between our communities. We will avoid doing anything in our protest to cause racial or religious hatred or prejudice on grounds of race, nationality, sex, sexuality or religion.*
- *In managing protests, we will facilitate peaceful protest as the exercising of a basic democratic right*
- *In expressing deeply held opinions, including the use of social media, we will do so responsibly and respect the right of others to do the same*
- *To ensure everyone involved in the managing of protest and those who organise and participate in our protest to abide by this pledge.*

We expect the community of Greater Manchester to hold us to account in continuing to promote strong communities that work against hatred and fear.

**Meeting of the Council
12 November 2014**

On behalf of all of the people of Trafford and Greater Manchester, we call on all those in the news media to report issues on protests and demonstrations, race, nationality, gender, sexuality and religion positively, responsibly and with sensitivity.”

Following speeches in support, the Motion was agreed with the unanimous consent of the Council.

RESOLVED: That this Council is supportive of the following pledge and requests that the Chief Executive write to the Police and Crime Commissioner to indicate as such.

We stand up for hope in our communities, not the fear and hatred extremists would use to divide us.

We vow to import peace, never to export conflict.

We are proud of our city and region.

We celebrate our common heritage of peaceful radical protest to achieve social progress and justice.

We uphold the right to peaceful protest as essential in a healthy democracy.

However, we will stand up to those who try to use protest to divide or threaten our people and whip up intolerance, violence and hatred.

We gain strength from the diversity of our people.

We pledge:

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- *In managing protests, we will facilitate peaceful protest as the exercising of a basic democratic right*
- *In expressing deeply held opinions, including the use of social media, we will do so responsibly and respect the right of others to do the same*
- *To ensure everyone involved in the managing of protest and those who organise and participate in our protest to abide by this pledge.*

**Meeting of the Council
12 November 2014**

We expect the community of Greater Manchester to hold us to account in continuing to promote strong communities that work against hatred and fear.

On behalf of all of the people of Trafford and Greater Manchester, we call on all those in the news media to report issues on protests and demonstrations, race, nationality, gender, sexuality and religion positively, responsibly and with sensitivity.

The meeting commenced at 7.05 p.m. and finished at 9.26 p.m.

TRAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

10 DECEMBER 2014

PRESENT

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Ejaz Malik), in the Chair.

J. Holden	Mrs. P. Dixon	J.R. Reilly
D. Acton	A. Duffield	Mrs J. Reilly
S. Adshead	Mrs. L. Evans	B. Rigby
S. Anstee	N. Evans	T. Ross
Dr. K. Barclay	T. Fishwick	M. Sephton
Miss L. Blackburn	M. Freeman	B. Sharp
R. Bowker	P. Gratrix	B. Shaw
C. Boyes	J. Harding	E.W. Stennett
H. Boyle	M. Hyman	S. Taylor
Mrs. A. Bruer-Morris	C. Hynes	Mrs. V. Ward
Mrs. J.E. Brophy	D. Jarman	A. Western
D. Butt	P. Lally	D. Western
K. Carter	J. Lloyd	M. Whetton
Mrs. L. Cooke	A. Mitchell	A. Williams
M. Cordingley	P. Myers	M. Young
M. Cornes	D. O'Sullivan	Mrs. P. Young
J. Coupe	K. Procter	

In attendance

Chief Executive	Ms. T. Grant
Corporate Director Children, Families and Wellbeing	Mrs. D. Brownlee
Corporate Director Economic Growth, Environment and Infrastructure	Mrs. H. Jones
Acting Corporate Director Transformation and Resources	Ms. J. Hyde
Director of Finance	Mr. I. Duncan
Director of Legal and Democratic Services	Ms. J. Le Fevre
Head of Legal (Community)	Mr. H. Khan
Democratic and Performance Services Manager	Mr. P. Forrester
Democratic Services Officer	Mr. I. Cockill

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J. Baugh, J. Bennett, B. Brotherton, D. Bunting, C. Candish, R. Chilton, L. Dagnall, D. Higgins, J. Lamb, I. Platt, J. Smith and L. Walsh.

**Extraordinary Meeting of the Council
10 December 2014**

58. DEVOLUTION OF POWERS TO THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY AND TRANSITION TO A DIRECTLY ELECTED MAYOR

The Chief Executive and Leader of the Council submitted a joint report setting out the implications for Trafford of the recent Agreement with the Government to devolve functional and fiscal responsibilities alongside a staged approach to Greater Manchester governance arrangements.

The report outlined the importance of the Community Strategy and how it fed into shaping Greater Manchester priorities, the proposed Governance arrangements and the relationship between Trafford Council, the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and a Greater Manchester Mayor. The report also highlighted the areas where there would be further opportunities for devolution in the future and concluded with the resource implications for the next stages of the work to develop the necessary policy and legislative framework for devolution.

RESOLVED: That Council:

- (1) Endorses the overall approach to the devolved powers as set out in the body of the report.
- (2) Requests the Leader and the Chief Executive to report to the Executive and future Council Meetings on the specific constitutional and other implications for Trafford Council following the outcome of the GMCA Consultation and in relation to the development of the Governance arrangements and the terms of the Statutory Order.
- (3) Notes the proposal to delegate authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader to respond formally to the GMCA consultation on devolution in the terms set out in this report; and to finalise on behalf of the Council, the Council's response to the final terms of the Governance arrangements including the terms of the Statutory Order.

The meeting commenced at 6.37 p.m. and finished at 6.58 p.m.

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Council
Date: 21 January 2015
Report for: Decision
Report of: Executive Member for Finance and the Director of Finance

Report Title

Changes to the Council Tax Support Scheme for 2015/16

Summary

This report concerns the Council Tax Support scheme (CTS). Trafford Council has its own local Council Tax Support scheme and this needs to be formally agreed by the Council each year. The amendments proposed are due to the fact that the calculation parameters need to be adjusted for inflation and changes to the prescribed regulations need to be incorporated into the local scheme.

Recommendations for Council

That Full Council adopts the Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme currently in operation with the inclusion of the amendments detailed below for 2015/16:

- 1) That the applicable amounts are increased by 1% to keep them in line with inflationary increases to Housing Benefit and other welfare benefits (Appendix 1)
- 2) That the non-dependant deductions are frozen at their current rate (Appendix 2).
- 3) That the remaining funding allocated to the CTS discretionary fund when it was first introduced in April 2013 is rolled over into 2015/16. This is estimated to be approximately £20k by the end of the year.

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Louise Shaw
Extension: 3120

Background Papers: None

Implications:

Relationship to Policy Framework/Corporate Priorities	Uprating the scheme in line with inflationary increases (of other welfare benefits) will ensure the scheme remains fair and in line with national policy.
Financial	The 1% increase in applicable amounts will be largely offset by a corresponding 1% increase in income. The

	cost of uprating the scheme is minimal and will be absorbed by the difference between the forecasted and actual expenditure.
Legal Implications:	The changes to the CTS scheme need to be agreed by the Full Council by 31 January 2015, in order for the scheme to be formally adopted in April 2015. Amendments to the prescribed scheme are detailed in SI 2014 No 3312 and the scheme has also been updated to include Universal Credit and legislation relating to Persons from Abroad.
Equality/Diversity Implications	The recommendations proposed by this report are not considered to have any significant effect on groups with protected characteristics.
Sustainability Implications	None
Staffing/E-Government/Asset Management Implications	None

Reasons for Recommendation

The Council must adopt a Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme no later than 31 January before the start of the financial year to which the scheme applies in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 2012.

Key Decision

This is a key decision.

Other Options

The Council could decide not to set a scheme and the default scheme would apply in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 2012. However, this would have significant financial impact on the Council. The Council could also decide to set an alternative scheme, however, to do so without rationale and evidence from the operation of the current scheme in the timescales required would carry significant risks.

Consultation

Finance Officer Clearance ID

Legal Officer Clearance HK

DIRECTOR'S SIGNATURE ID

1. Background

- 1.1 In April 2013, the Council implemented its new local Council Tax Support (CTS) Scheme, which was designed to reduce expenditure and contribute towards the £1.25m funding gap caused by a reduction in government grant. The new scheme was designed following an extensive 12 week consultation and has helped to reduce costs and protect the most vulnerable.
- 1.2 A review of the current scheme has shown it is operating effectively. In summary:
- The scheme has produced the necessary savings to pay for the recommendations in this report;
 - The scheme has not impacted on Council Tax collection rates which remain on target;
 - Demand for the discretionary payment scheme remains low;
 - There have been no appeals to the Valuation Office Agency against the local CTS scheme; and
 - The CTS scheme has helped more people back into work through the use of added work incentives.
- 1.3 It is important to note that the recommendations listed in this report apply to working age customers only as, in accordance with the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements) Regulations 2014, local authorities are advised annually of the CTS qualifying criteria for customers who are state pension age.

2. Introduction

- 2.1 For each financial year, each billing authority must consider whether to revise its local CTS scheme or to replace it with another scheme. It is proposed that the existing scheme is not changed in any material way, save for the amendments recommended below.
- 2.2 The revisions to the scheme will take effect from April 2015 and in order to do so they must be approved by Council before 31 January 2015.

3. Recommended changes to the scheme for year 2

3.1 Recommendation 1

3.2 *The applicable amounts are increased by 1% (to the figures shown in appendix 1) to keep them in line with inflationary increases to other welfare benefits and the prescribed CTS Scheme for Pensioners.*

3.3 An increase of 1% will largely be offset by a corresponding 1% increase in other welfare benefits. Therefore the group that will benefit most by this change are those in work with a pay freeze.

3.4 The cost of implementing this change is low and can be absorbed by the difference between forecasted CTS expenditure and the grant settlement.

3.5 Recommendation 2

3.6 *That the non-dependant deductions are frozen at their current rates (see appendix 2).*

3.7 Non-dependant deductions are made from an award of CTS where the claimant and / or their partner live with another adult in their property. This is usually a grown up son or daughter, but could include friends or an older relative etc. who are expected to contribute to household costs. The amount of the deduction depends on the non dependant's circumstances and earnings.

3.8 Non-dependant deductions were increased above the national rate in 2013/14 to make the required savings and it is recommended that the deductions for the working age scheme are frozen at their current rates (see appendix 2) for 2015/16. This measure will help extended families. The cost involved is minimal (estimated at less than £2k) and can be absorbed by the scheme.

3.8 Recommendation 3

3.9 *That the remaining budget allocated to the discretionary fund (in year 1 2013/14) is rolled over into 2015/16. This currently stands at around £20k.*

3.10 To help with the transition from Council Tax Benefit to CTS, Members agreed that a discretionary fund should be set up to help residents on a case by case basis. A fund of £50k was initially set aside for this purpose.

3.11 Although take up of the fund has been lower than expected, it has proved to be a useful tool, helping many residents in financial difficulties and debt to pay their Council Tax. As the effects of welfare reform and the increasing trend of rental arrears continues it is recommended that the remaining budget is rolled over into the next financial year.

Appendix 1 – Applicable amounts for 2014/16

Working Age	Single	Couple
Allowances		
Single Claimant under 18	£57.90	
Single claimant 18 to 24	£57.90	
Single claimant 25 or over	£73.10	
Lone Parent under 18	£57.90	
Lone Parent 18 or over	£73.10	
Couple both under 18	£87.50	
Couple one or both over 18	£114.85	
Child Allowance	£66.90	
Young Person Allowance	£66.90	
Premiums		
Disability Premium	£32.25	£45.95
Enhanced Disability Premium	£15.75	£24.43
Severe Disability Premium	£61.85	£123.70
Disabled Child Premium	£60.06	
Enhanced Child Disability Premium	£24.43	
Carer Premium	£34.60	£69.20
ESA Work Related Activity Component	£29.05	
ESA Support related component	£36.20	
Family Premium	£17.45	

Appendix 2 – Non – Dependant Deductions (weekly)

In remunerative work with gross weekly income of:	Working Age	Pensioners
£408 per week or more	£11.88	£10.95
Between £328 and £408 per week	£9.90	£9.15
Between £189 and £328 per week	£7.86	£7.25
Under £189 per week	£3.96	£3.65
Non-dependant not in remunerative work:		
On IS/JSA(IB)/ESA(IR)	£3.96	Nil
Not in receipt of above benefits	£3.96	£3.65

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TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Council
Date: 21 January 2015
Report for: Decision
Report of: Chairman of Standards Committee/Director of Legal & Democratic Services / Monitoring Officer

Report Title

Appointment of the Independent Member to the Standards Committee

Summary

There currently exists a vacancy for one Independent Co-Opted Member on Standards Committee. A selection process has been undertaken and a suitable candidate identified. This report seeks Council's endorsement for the appointment to be made with immediate effect.

Recommendations

- 1. That Council endorses the appointment of Richard Brown as an Independent Member of the Standards Committee with immediate effect.**

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Peter Forrester
Extension: 1815

Background Papers: None.

Background Information

Implications:

Relationship to Corporate Priorities	<i>All</i>
Financial	<i>No significant implication arising from this report.</i>
Legal Implications	<i>No implication arising from this report.</i>
Equality/Diversity Implications	<i>None.</i>
Sustainability Implications	<i>None.</i>
Staffing/E-Government/Asset Management Implications	<i>This decision will fill a vacancy on the establishment on one of the Council's standing Committees, and allow greater flexibility for the committee in carrying out its duties.</i>
Risk Management Implications	<i>None.</i>
Health and Safety Implications	<i>None.</i>

1.0 Background

Following the resignation of the Independent Member of the Standards Committee, It was agreed that a selection process would be determined by the Chairman of Standards Committee and the Monitoring Officer. In accordance with the agreed process applications were invited for the role. The Committee's Chairman, Councillor Holden and the Deputy Monitoring Officer interviewed five applicants and their joint decision was to offer the vacant post to Richard Brown.

This report seeks Council endorsement of that recommendation.