



TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Tuesday, 8 September 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, 16 SEPTEMBER 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:

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| 1. Minutes | |
| To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 15 July 2015 for signature by the Mayor as Chairman. | 1 - 16 |
| 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. Motions

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

(a) Motion Submitted by the Conservative Group - Fairer Funding for Schools

This Council recognises the hard work put in by teachers in our primary and secondary schools which underpin the provision of outstanding test and examination results achieved by our children, right across the ability range.

This is all the more remarkable when it is taken onto account that Trafford schools receive £318 per pupil less than the national average, and that Trafford has one of the highest per pupil Minimum Funding Guarantees in the country.

It cannot be right for children in one part of the country to be receiving less base funding per head than in other parts, and Council agrees that this unfairness renders the existing formula as flawed.

It is these reasons that the Council is a member of the F40 group which campaigns for fairer funding for schools. Council welcomes a statement made by the Prime Minister at Parliamentary Questions committing the Government to introducing a fairer funding formula for allocating cash to schools across England.

In consequence, this Council reiterates its support for the F40 campaign and requests that the Leader of the Council writes to the Secretary of State for Education to bring forward, more quickly, the Government's commitment, as stated in its manifesto, to ensuring fairer funding for schools.

(b) Motion Submitted by the Labour Group - Cost Pressures Facing Local Authorities

This Council notes the content of the recent submission of the Conservative-controlled Local Government Association (LGA) to the Treasury entitled 'Spending Smarter: A Shared Commitment'. This document raises concerns about the future sustainability of local authorities in light of additional costs expected to fall upon councils in the next few years. These costs – estimated by the LGA at £6.3 billion annually in addition to a £3.6 billion increase in business as usual costs – arise as a result of policy decisions such as cutting social housing rents by 1% a year, business rate revaluation and accompanying administrative burden, and the introduction of universal credit.

Continued ...

Regardless of personal views on the policies in question it is clear that these have enormous financial implications for local authorities and have not as yet been mitigated by the Treasury in order to ease the pressure on councils. In particular Council notes the words of Councillor Gary Porter, Conservative Chair of the LGA, commenting on the LGA's analysis and stating that: "Enormous pressure will be heaped on already stretched local services if the government fails to fully assess the impact of these unfunded cost burdens when making its spending decisions for the next five years. Vital services, such as caring for the elderly, protecting children, collecting bins, filling potholes and maintaining our parks and green spaces, will simply struggle to continue at current levels."

Council is supportive of the LGA's findings and the views of Councillor Porter and therefore agrees to write to the Treasury expressing similar concerns and calling for a fairer and more substantial funding settlement – taking into account these additional cost pressures - ahead of the November Spending Review.

(c) Motion Submitted by the Labour Group - Refugee Crisis

This Council has been deeply disturbed by pictures emerging from the Mediterranean of the on-going refugee crisis and its impact on human life. In response to these devastating events, this Council affirms its commitment to fulfil our moral and humanitarian obligations to all people in crisis and Syrian refugees in particular. To this end Council agrees to write to the Prime Minister in support of a comprehensive national response to this terrible situation, pledging Trafford's full and unyielding co-operation in helping to alleviate the pain and suffering inflicted by what many have described as the worst humanitarian crisis since the Second World War.

(d) Motion Submitted by the Labour Group - Police Allocation Formula and Impact on Greater Manchester Police

This Council notes:

- The Home Office has announced a public consultation on the current Police Allocation Formula which is to conclude on 15th September.
- The Home Office has so far failed to provide adequate details to Police Crime Commissioners, Police and Chief Constables that allow them to fully understand financial implications and may leave the force severely disadvantaged.
- Potential cuts could range from £53 million to £78 million which is the equivalent of between 1,060 and 1,560 officers.

Continued ...

- Since 2010 Greater Manchester Police (GMP) has lost more than 1,500 officers. 129 officers across Trafford.
- Lack of clarity from the Home Office suggests that financial planning is and will be incredibly difficult to forecast even in the short term.
- The National Audit Office has already warned the Government has insufficient information on how much further police funding could be cut without degrading services.
- The Chief Constable Sir Peter Fahy reports that GMP risk becoming a “reactive force”.

Council resolves:

To work with the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable to pursue the letter sent to Rt. Hon. Theresa May requesting further detail on the Police Allocation Formula.

To openly challenge this Government on the proposed further cuts to GMP and fight for a fairer deal for Trafford.

Yours sincerely,



THERESA GRANT
Chief Executive

Membership of the Council

Councillors J. Holden (Mayor), J. Lloyd (Deputy Mayor), D. Acton, S. Adshead, S.B. Anstee, S.K. Anstee, Dr. K. Barclay, J. Baugh, J. Bennett, Miss L. Blackburn, R. Bowker, C. Boyes, Mrs. A. Bruer-Morris, Mrs. J.E. Brophy, B. Brotherton, D. Bunting, D. Butt, C. Candish, K. Carter, M. Cawdrey, R. Chilton, 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. Hopps, M. Hyman, C. Hynes, D. Jarman, P. Lally, J. Lamb, E. Malik, 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

Council - Wednesday, 16 September 2015

Further Information

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

Ian Cockill, Democratic Services Officer

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Email: ian.cockill@trafford.gov.uk

This Summons was issued on **Tuesday, 8 September 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.