



TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Tuesday, 22 September 2020

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, 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**, at **7.00 PM** which will be held as a **VIRTUAL MEETING**, for the transaction of the business set out below.

Please Note: Members of the public may view the meeting via the following link:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjwbIOW5x0NSe38sgFU8bKg>

- | | Pages |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Minutes | |
| To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the following meetings of the Council for signature by the Mayor as Chair of the Council: | |
| (a) Meeting of the Council - 18 March 2020 | 1 - 4 |
| (b) Extraordinary Meeting of the Council - 15 May 2020 | 5 - 8 |
| (c) Extraordinary Meeting of the Council - 14 July 2020 | 9 - 10 |
| 2. Announcements | |
| To receive any announcements from the Mayor, Leader of the Council, Members of the Executive, Chairs 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 Chairs of any Committee or Sub-Committee a question on notice under Procedure Rule 10.2. | |

4. Council and Committee Meetings - Arrangements, Format and Timetable

To consider a report of the Executive Member for Public Safety, Governance and Reform. 11 - 16

5. Accounts and Audit Committee Annual Report to Council 2019/20

To note a report of the Chair of Accounts and Audit Committee (2019/20) recommended from Accounts and Audit Committee on 15 July 2020. 17 - 34

6. Year End Corporate Report on Health, Safety and Wellbeing – 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020

To note a report of the Executive Member for Finance and Investment. 35 - 50

7. Motions

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

(a) Motion Submitted by the Labour Group - Domestic Violence (Deferred from the Council Meeting held on 18 March 2020)

This Council fully supports the Trafford Partnerships Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy and recognises that the Domestic Abuse Bill has been finally brought to Parliament almost three years after it was first promised. This legislation is welcome and urgently needed, but will only be effective if it is underpinned by sustainable funding for specialist women's services.

This Council notes that:

Trafford Council strives to have a zero tolerance approach towards domestic violence and abuse. Domestic abuse is a complex social issue which affects people from all groups, genders and cultures and impacts across all services. However, it is important to recognise that Domestic Abuse is a gendered crime. The Office of National Statistics states that whilst 2 million adults aged 16-59 experienced domestic abuse last year, 1.6 million of these are women. Almost one in three women will experience domestic abuse in their lifetime, and two women a week are killed by a current or former partner. This Council also notes that all children who live with domestic abuse are victims too.

“Every case of domestic abuse should be taken seriously and each individual given access to the support they need. All victims should be able to access appropriate support. Whilst both men and women may

Continued ...

experience incidents of inter-personal violence and abuse, women are considerably more likely to experience repeated and severe forms of abuse, including sexual violence. They are also more likely to have experienced sustained physical, psychological or emotional abuse, or violence which results in injury or death” (Statement from Women’s Aid)

The causes and effects of domestic abuse are numerous and significant. Across Trafford there are a range of organisations that work directly or indirectly with residents affected by domestic abuse, including Trafford Domestic Abuse Services (TDAS). Recent Home Office Statistics put the financial cost of domestic abuse in England and Wales at £66 billion, but it is the human cost that is more devastating.

This Council believes that:

In Trafford we are committed to enabling our residents, their families and communities to live a healthy life, free from abuse and violence. We will support this by reducing the impact of domestic abuse on the population of Trafford by developing and implementing a sustainable system wide approach to prevention, early intervention, response and support.

This Council will ensure that we:

- Promote awareness, raising the profile of domestic abuse across all Trafford Partnership organisations and services
- Encourage staff, partners and Elected Members to attend the excellent training offered by TDAS. A request will be submitted to provide an extra session at Trafford Town Hall.
- Work to ensure our services enhance the safety of victims and the support that they receive
- Promote early identification and harm reduction
- Work in partnership with Greater Manchester Combined Authority and our partners to ensure an effective, evidence based response to perpetrators through to conviction and management of offenders, including rehabilitation and behavioural change programmes.
- Improve performance – to drive consistency and better performance in the response to domestic abuse across all local areas, agencies and sectors.

This Council resolves:

- To call upon the government to fully fund the Bill. The previous government/s have promised this would be a ‘landmark moment’

Continued ...

for victim-survivors of domestic abuse, and a vital piece of legislation, which would change the lives of the estimated 2 million people a year who are subjected to abuse. This Bill is welcomed as a first step but the safety of women has got to be made an economic priority.

(b) Motion Submitted by the Labour Group - UK Cities, Towns and Districts Standing Up for Responsible Tax Conduct (Deferred from the Council Meeting held on 18 March 2020)

Trafford Council recognises that:

Paying tax is often presented as a burden, but it shouldn't be. Not when considered against the huge array of public services it helps fund – from education, health and social care, to flood defence, roads, policing and defence. It also helps to counter financial inequalities and rebalance distorted economies.

The pressure on organisations to pay the right amount of tax in the right place at the right time has never been stronger. For example, polling from the Institute for Business Ethics finds that “corporate tax avoidance” has, since 2013, been the clear number one concern of the British public when it comes to business conduct.

In recent years, Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) has done much to clamp down on tax avoidance and evasion – but many in the tax justice movement think there is still much more to be done. It's been conservatively estimated that losses from multinational profit-shifting (just one form of tax avoidance) could be costing the UK some £7 billion per annum in lost corporation tax revenues.

As recipients of significant public funding, municipalities should take the lead in the promotion of exemplary tax conduct; be that by ensuring contractors are paying their proper share of tax, or by refusing to go along with offshore tax dodging when buying land and property.

Where substantive stakes are held in private enterprises, then influence should be wielded to ensure that such businesses are exemplars of tax transparency and tax avoidance is shunned - e.g., no use of marketed schemes requiring disclosure under DOTAS regulations (Disclosure Of Tax Avoidance Schemes) or arrangements that might fall foul of the General Anti-Abuse Rule. The Fair Tax Mark offers a means for business to demonstrate good tax conduct, and has been secured by organisations with a combined annual income of £50 billion and more than 6,500 outlets and premises. Social enterprises and co-operatives have been early pioneers of the Fair Tax Mark, and fit especially well with the pursuit of social value in public procurement.

Continued ...

In recent polling, almost two-thirds (63%) of the public agree that the Government and local councils should consider a company's ethics and how they pay their tax as well as value for money and quality of service provided, when undertaking procurement. At the same time, research has found that 17.5% of public contracts in the UK have been won by companies with links to tax havens. More action is needed, however, current law significantly restricts council's ability to either penalise poor tax conduct or reward good tax conduct, when buying goods or services.

UK cities, counties and towns can and should stand up for responsible tax conduct - doing what they can within existing frameworks and pledging to do more given the opportunity, as active supporters of international tax justice.

We pledge to:

1. Pass a resolution approving the Councils for Fair Tax Declaration.
2. Lead by example and demonstrate good practice in our tax conduct, right across our activities. Including:
 - Ensuring contractors implement IR35 robustly and a fair share of employment taxes are paid.
 - Shunning the use of offshore vehicles for the purchase of land and property, especially where this leads to reduced payments of stamp duty.
 - Undertaking due diligence to ensure that not-for-profit structures are not being used inappropriately as an artificial device to reduce the payment of tax and business rates.
 - Ensuring that there is clarity on the ultimate beneficial ownership of suppliers and their consolidated profit and loss position, given lack of clarity could be strong indicators of poor financial probity and weak financial standing.
3. Promote Fair Tax Mark certification for any business in which we have a significant stake and where corporation tax is due.
4. Join in and support Fair Tax Week events in the area, and celebrate the tax contribution made by responsible businesses who say what they pay with pride.
5. Support calls for urgent reform of EU and UK law to enable municipalities to revise their procurement policies and better penalise poor tax conduct and reward good tax conduct.

(c) Motion Submitted by the Labour Group - Financial Impact of Covid on Local Authority Budgets

This Council is deeply concerned by the failure of the Conservative Government to compensate local authorities for the full financial impact of Covid-19. In Trafford alone, despite false promises of 'whatever it takes' from Government, the current crisis has created a financial pressure of over £60 million that so far hasn't been met anywhere near in full. Local authorities find themselves in this appalling position having already endured ten years of sustained austerity. Unless action is taken by Government to properly compensate councils for both costs and loss of income in full caused by Covid this could have a significant impact on this Council's ability to deliver services to its residents in the future.

Council notes that as things currently stand – after utilising available resources and exhausting other options – we find ourselves in the position of having a multi-million pound in-year budget gap significantly attributable to Covid, and face a budget deficit of over £35 million for the next financial year 2021/22.

Council therefore resolves:

- That the Government must compensate local authorities for the true financial impact of Covid-19.
- That the Leader of the Council should write to the Prime Minister outlining the threat to local services if this does not happen.
- That the Council should launch a communications campaign similar to other authorities such as Redbridge to outline the Government's failure to fund Covid-19 in full (costs and lost income) and to raise awareness of this amongst residents to highlight the risk to local services.

Council places on record it's thanks to all Trafford residents for their support in these challenging times and pays tribute to all our staff who have worked to support our communities over the past six months. They are a credit to us and we are keen to ensure we are properly funded in order that they can continue this fantastic work.

(d) Motion Submitted by the Green Party Group - Lower Speeds, Safer Roads: Harnessing New Technology to Build Back Better on Trafford's Streets

Council notes that all parties in Trafford have previously supported motions or amendments backing the expansion of 20 mph zones. It also recognises that the provision of enforcement and competing demands on the police and other agencies has slowed that expansion down and has hitherto often been cited as reason not to make 20 mph zones more widespread.

This Council therefore welcomes the intention of our Government to abide by Regulation (EU) 2019/2144, making it a mandatory requirement for speed limiter and data recorder technology to be installed in new models of vehicle from 2022, and all new vehicles from 2024. For the first time speed compliance will be in-built into private vehicles, bringing them into line with HGVs.

And Council recognises the opportunity this provides to local authorities to look again at 20 mph schemes:

- That will not be a long-term drain on policing resources and won't need investment in humps or traffic calming.
- That offer long-term savings through collision reduction, better public health (through cleaner air and increased active travel) and reduced highway wear and tear.
- That can help reduce health inequalities in deprived neighbourhoods, where research shows child pedestrian deaths are over four times those in affluent neighbourhoods.¹
- That will bring policy into line with the principle of the Stockholm Declaration², signed by the UK government in February 2020, which mandates a maximum road travel speed of 20 mph "where vulnerable road users and vehicles mix in a frequent and planned manner, except where strong evidence exists that higher speeds are safe".
- That further the objectives of Trafford's Public Health Report, which finds that "slowing city traffic makes roads safer for everyone, and encourages walking and cycling".³
- That benefit from strong public support, according to national surveys.⁴

Council resolves:

- To take advantage of this new opportunity.
- To strive to utilise the Department of Transport's Emergency Active Travel Funding to enable new funded 20 mph limit zones.

Continued ...

- In the short term, to provide Trafford residents with the right to request signed 20 mph speed limits on their streets, using a similar mechanism to the one already used for residents to request parking schemes.
- To adopt a policy of favouring the implementation of 20 mph limits or zones as a default for all streets in residential areas, town centres/retail districts and roads where vulnerable road users and motor vehicles mix. A report outlining how this could be achieved and funded will be presented to the Council by the end of the financial year.

- 1 Welsh 20 MPH Task Force Group: Final Report
<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-07/20mph-task-force-group-report.pdf>
- 2 Stockholm Declaration Third Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety: Achieving Global Goals 2030
- 3 Combating Climate Change: Report of the Director of Public Health Trafford 2019
- 4 Working Together to Promote Active Travel. A briefing for local authorities
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/523460/Working_Together_to_Promote_Active_Travel_A_briefing_for_local_authorities.pdf

Yours sincerely,



SARA TODD
Chief Executive

Membership of the Council

Councillors R. Chilton (Mayor), L. Walsh (Deputy Mayor), D. Acton, S. Adshead, A. Akinola, S.B. Anstee, Dr. K. Barclay, J. Bennett, Miss L. Blackburn, C. Boyes, J. E. Brophy, B. Brotherton, D. Bunting, D. Butt, T. Carey, Dr. S. Carr, K.G. Carter, C.H. Churchill, G. Coggins, M. Cordingley, J. Dillon, A. Duffield, N. Evans, M. Freeman, Mrs. D.L. Haddad, J. Harding, B. Hartley, J. Holden, C. Hynes, D. Jarman, D. Jerrome, P. Lally, J. Lamb, J. Lloyd, S. Longden, M. Minnis, A. Mitchell, D. Morgan, P. Myers, A. New, J.D. Newgrosh, E. Patel, K. Procter, S.B. Procter, B. Rigby, T. Ross, B. Shaw, J. Slater, E.W. Stennett, S. Taylor, S. Thomas, R. Thompson, M.J. Welton, A. Western, D. Western, G. Whitham, A.M. Whyte, A.J. Williams, B.G. Winstanley, J.A. Wright and Mrs. P. Young.

Further Information

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

Ian Cockill, Governance Officer
Tel: 0161 912 1387
Email: ian.cockill@trafford.gov.uk

This Summons was issued on **Tuesday, 22 September 2020** by the Legal and Democratic Services Section, Trafford Council, Trafford Town Hall, Talbot Road, Stretford M32 0TH.