



TRAFFORD COUNCIL

8 July 2014

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 JULY 2014, 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 Annual Meeting of the Council held on 11 June 2014 for signature by the Mayor as Chairman. | 1 - 14 |
| 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. Revised Corporate Management Team (CMT) Arrangements | |
| To consider a report of the Chief Executive, referred from the Employment Committee meeting held on 7 July 2014. | 15 - 18 |
| 5. Scrutiny Arrangements | |
| To consider a report of the Corporate Director of Transformation and Resources / Statutory Scrutiny Officer. | To Follow |

6. Treasury Management Annual Performance 2013/14 Report

To consider a report of the Executive Member for Finance and the Director of Finance, referred from the Accounts and Audit Committee meeting held on 26 June 2014.

19 - 30

7. Accounts and Audit Committee Annual Report to Council 2013/14

To receive a report of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Accounts and Audit Committee, referred from the Committee meeting held on 26 June 2014.

31 - 48

8. Motions

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

(a) Motion Submitted by the Conservative Group - Employment Figures

Whilst recognising that there is more to do, this Council welcomes the latest jobs statistics for the Borough which show:

1. Unemployment down from 4,371 (3.1%) under the last Labour Government to 2,984 (2.1%) in May.
2. Youth unemployment in Trafford down 48% from 7.4% under the last Labour Government to 3.9% in May.

In particular this Council welcomes the work of the Conservative Executive to boost apprenticeships and job opportunities for young people.

This work has seen:

1. 75 apprenticeships employed by the Authority to date.
2. 1,130 businesses in the Borough approached to promote apprenticeships.
3. 92 apprentices recruited by external employers to date with a further 18 vacancies in the pipeline.

Through working in partnership with the private sector, youth unemployment in the Borough has fallen from 0.3 above the national average under the last Labour Government to 0.4% below now.

This Council welcomes this news and congratulates our staff for their work to support our young people into the world of work.

(b) Motion Submitted by the Conservative Group - Trafford Line Metrolink Scheme

This Council welcomes the start of the consultation of the proposed Metrolink line through Trafford Park and on to the Trafford Centre.

Council recognises the significant economic growth potential the line will bring in a way that will help connect people with jobs, and companies to markets.

In particular, Council notes:

- the support of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority
- the detailed work to prepare the business case undertaken by Transport for Greater Manchester
- the enhanced public transport links the line would bring to directly benefit Davyhulme, Urmston and Flixton

Therefore, Council wishes to place on record its support for the consultation and instruct the Chief Executive to respond to the consultation on behalf of the authority and strongly encourages its residents and businesses to participate in the consultation and ensure their voice is heard.

(c) Motion Submitted by the Labour Group - Universal Credit Rollout

This Council notes with concern the pressures being experienced in the Department for Work and Pensions across a number of programmes and benefits. It notes the damaging impact on local residents of delays and backlogs in processing applications for personal independence payment, which are leaving sick and disabled people waiting months for a benefit decision, including cancer patients waiting an average of 4.5 months for an assessment according to Macmillan; and delays and wrong decisions in the operation of work capability assessments, where more than 700,000 cases await assessment.

Against this background of delays and incompetence, this Council is alarmed at the introduction of universal credit in Trafford, and about the potential impact on local residents, who risk further delays in benefit receipt, wrong decisions, and lack of money, leading to hardship, increased debt, and driving more to foodbanks. This Council recognises the success of Trafford Assist in supporting claimants in emergency need, and strongly regrets that government funding for Trafford Assist is to be ended next year.

This Council welcomes the proposed framework for local support services partnerships, but notes the long delays in establishing this programme which mean that universal credit will be introduced in Trafford without the framework being put in place. This Council condemns the coalition government for its chaotic management of welfare reforms which will lead to increased poverty, anxiety for claimants and cost to the taxpayer, and resolves to write to the Prime Minister to place on record these concerns.

(d) Motion Submitted by the Labour Group - Independent Living Fund

The planned closure in June 2015 of the Independent Living Fund (ILF) is an unjustified attack on those disabled people with the highest support needs, which if unchallenged will result in disabled people becoming prisoners in their own homes or forced into residential care against their wishes. The Independent Living Fund is a model of support that works, giving disabled people choice and control over their own lives, enabling them to enjoy fulfilling lives and contribute to their communities while running on relatively low overheads and providing employment.

At a time of increasing pressure on and crisis in social care the government should be expanding not closing the ILF. Disabled people and their families need a clear and vocal message of support from our elected leaders on this matter.

We support the demands of the Save the ILF campaign that:

1. The ILF should not only be retained for existing recipients but re-opened to new applicants as the Scottish government have committed to.
2. That an independent living task force should be set up and co-produced with ILF users, to review independent living and specifically the ILF to identify how to best develop independent living support, building on the successful and cost effective model of ILF provision.
3. At the very minimum the ILF funding should be ring-fenced for the care and support of those with the highest needs when funding is transferred to Local Authorities and devolved administrations.

(e) Motion Submitted by the Labour Group - Taxi De-Regulation and Out of Town Taxis

This Council notes the piecemeal changes being proposed by the Government in the regulation of Private Hire Vehicles under the guise of Ministerial push to cut red tape and provide quick wins for business within the De-Regulation Bill currently before Parliament and that these changes are being proposed ahead of full consideration being given by Government to the Law Commission Report on Taxi and Private Hire Services, a process that commenced in 2011.

This Council notes the clauses inserted into the De-Regulation Bill which compromise public safety in relation to use of Private Hire Vehicles and in condemning these clauses reaffirms that public safety in relation to Private Hire Vehicle regulation remains the Councils primary concern.

This Council further notes the increasing use of Out of Town Licensed Hackney Carriages as Private Hire Vehicles within the Borough of Trafford by Private Hire Operators and the issues this is causing our locally licensed Private Hire and Hackney Drivers who continue to meet the high safety standards and local enforcement regulations expected of them and how this situation is compromising the safety of our public using Private Hire Vehicles.

This Council resolves to write to the Government Minister responsible expressing our opposition and concerns in regard of the three clauses pertaining to Private Hire Vehicles that have been inserted into the De-Regulation Bill.

Further this Council resolves to work closely with other Local Authorities through the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities, local representatives of the National Taxi Association and National Private Hire Association to work on a solution to the Out of Town Hackney Carriages operating as Private Hire Vehicles across wide ranges of Greater Manchester. In the interest of and so ensuring public safety in Trafford is in no way compromised this Council will develop a Communication Strategy advising Taxi users in Trafford to always request a Licensed Trafford Taxi and Driver when booking and undertaking Taxi journeys.

(f) Motion Submitted by the Labour Group - Fracking

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.

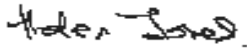
These laws hastily changed at the same time as a recent poll showed 75% public are opposed to fracking.

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 the long term damage to our environment is 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.

Yours sincerely,



p.p.

THERESA GRANT

Chief Executive

Membership of the Council

Councillors E.H. 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, J. 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

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This Summons was issued on **Tuesday, 8 July 2014** by the Legal and Democratic Services Section, Trafford Council, Trafford Town Hall, Talbot Road, Stretford M32 0TH