



TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Tuesday, 9 July 2019

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, 17 JULY 2019, at 7.00 PM** 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 Annual Meeting of the Council held on 22 May 2019, for signature by the Mayor as Chair of the Council. | 1 - 12 |
| 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. Membership of Committees and Outside Bodies | |
| To note the following changes to the list of appointments, as agreed by the Chief Executive under delegated authority: | |
| (a) <u>Licensing Committee</u> | |
| With effect from 14 June 2019, Councillor Mrs. Churchill was appointed as a replacement for Councillor Mrs. Haddad and Councillor Myers was appointed to the vacant position on the Committee. | |

(b) Health and Social Care Joint Commissioning Board

With effect from 17 June 2019, Councillor Jane Slater was appointed as a replacement for Councillor Dr. Serena Carr and Councillor Andrew Western was appointed as a replacement for Councillor Akilah Akinola, as substitute.

5. Revised Corporate Leadership Structure and Re-alignment of Portfolios

To consider a report of the Chief Executive, following a referral by Employment Committee on 1 July 2019. 13 - 22

6. Association of Greater Manchester Authorities Constitution

To consider AGMA's revised Constitution, referred to the Greater Manchester constituent authorities for agreement. 23 - 64

7. Accounts and Audit Committee Annual Report to Council 2018/19

To note a report of the 2018/19 Chair and Vice-Chair presented to the Accounts and Audit Committee on 19 June 2019. 65 - 80

8. Annual Scrutiny Report 2018/19

To note a joint report of the Chairs of Scrutiny Committee, Health Scrutiny Committee and Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee, following a referral by Scrutiny Committee on 3 July 2019. 81 - 86

9. Year End Corporate Report on Health and Safety - 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

To note a report of the Executive Member for Finance and Investment following a referral by Employment Committee on 1 July 2019. 87 - 104

10. Motions

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

(a) **Motion Submitted by the Labour Group - Public Health**

The Public Health Grant funds vital services and functions that prevent ill health and contribute to the future sustainability of the NHS. Local authorities are responsible for delivering most of these services, but their ability to do so is compromised by public health baseline funding reductions and the broader funding climate.

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In 2018/19 and again in 2019/20 every local authority has had less to spend on public health than the year before. Taking funds away from prevention is a false economy. Without proper investment in public health people suffer, demand on local health services increases and the economy suffers. Poor public health costs local businesses heavily through sick days and lost productivity. Unless we restore public health funding, our health and care system will remain locked in a 'treatment' approach, which is neither economically viable nor protects the health of residents.

The Government is looking to phase out the Public Health Grant nationally by 2020/21, as is already the case across Greater Manchester. Thereafter, they plan to fund public health via business rates retention. Whatever the model, it is vital that local authorities have enough funding to deliver the functions and services they need to provide. Deprived areas often suffer the worst health outcomes, so it is also vital that areas with the greatest need receive sufficient funding to meet their local challenges.

This Council notes that around four in ten cancers are preventable, largely through avoidable risk factors, such as stopping smoking, keeping a healthy weight and cutting back on alcohol. Smoking accounts for 80,000 early deaths every year and remains the largest preventable cause of cancer in the world. Smoking-related ill health costs local authorities £760 million every year in social care costs. Additionally, obesity and alcohol account for 30,000 and 7,000 early deaths each year respectively. All three increase the risk of: cancer, diabetes, lung and heart conditions, poor mental health and create a subsequent burden on health and social care.

This Council believes that the impact of reduction to baseline funding to public health on our communities is becoming difficult to ignore. This case becomes more pressing given the Government's consideration of a 10-year plan for the NHS. For this reason, we support Cancer Research UK's call for increased and sustainable public health funding. This Council calls on the Government to deliver increased investment in public health and to support a sustainable health and social care system by taking a 'prevention first' approach. Trafford Council recognises and values the role of Public Health and will lobby Central Government to support and properly fund public health initiatives - to prevent ill-health, reduce inequalities and support a health and social care system that is fit for the future.

(b) Motion Submitted by the Labour Group - Unite Construction Charter

This Council supports the Unite Construction Charter as set out below and authorises the Leader of the Council to sign this Charter on behalf of Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council.

As a Local Authority we are responsible for the procurement of a multitude of construction projects. It is therefore appropriate that we as a responsible client enter into this agreement and commit to working with the appropriate trade unions, in order to achieve the highest standards in respect of; direct employment status, health & safety, standard of work, apprenticeship training and the implementation of appropriate nationally agreed terms and conditions of employment. The following shall be a requirement for all contractors and their supply chain engaged by this Authority: -

1. All parties recognise that the highest level of compliance with current HMRC regulations must be achieved where public funds are utilised. It is therefore a contractual requirement that all operatives are directly employed on a PAYE basis under a contract of employment. Furthermore the use of intermediary pay roll company will be prohibited on all contracts.
2. Health and Safety of workers on all of our construction projects is paramount. It is therefore a requirement that all contractors rigorously implement and adhere to our minimum standards for health and safety, as set out in our procurement documents. In addition we require all contractors to provide quality welfare facilities fit for purpose in accordance with the Construction Design and Management Regulation of 2015.
3. It is a recognised fact that the presence of trade union safety representatives significantly improves safety in the workplace. Contractors and their supply chain are required to work collaboratively with the appropriate trade unions to identify and implement reasonable real-world initiatives.
4. The Authority requires all projects to be completed to the highest standard, so as to meet the aspirations of the residents of this Authority. In order to achieve this it is recognised that it is necessary that all workers are competent and have the appropriate level of skill to carry out the work they are employed to do. To assist in the achievement of this goal the Authority's contractors and their supply chain will ensure they retain documented evidence that all workers are competent to carry out the work they have been employed to do. They will ensure that such evidence is retained in a way as to allow the Authority or its

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nominee's to audit the documentation. Possession of the recognised industry skills / grade card such as JIB (Joint Industry Board) or CSCS (Construction Skills Certification Scheme) will be considered acceptable evidence

5. The Authority is mindful of the industry skills shortage and the need to address this through appropriate apprenticeships, including adult training in up skilling. The Authority's contractors and supply chain will in consultation with the Authority and other interested parties develop and implement a programme that addresses the skills shortage and provides training opportunities to local residents.
6. The Authority recognises the right of all construction workers to be employed under and to be protected by the appropriate national industry collective agreement. The Authority requires full compliance with all appropriate national agreements applicable to the construction industry.
7. All contractors and their supply chain will accept the right of any trade union that is a signatory to an appropriate national agreement, to appoint shop stewards, workplace health & safety representatives and Union Learning Reps. All trade union accredited representatives will be granted appropriate time and facilities to carry out their responsibilities.
8. The Authority, its contractors and their supply chain are committed to a fair and transparent recruitment policy. All contractors and their supply chain will actively ensure that the engagement of labour is based on the individual's ability to meet the needs of the project and the specific tasks for which they are recruited to undertake.
9. The Authority its contractors and their supply chain agree it's not acceptable for anyone to use or make reference to any form of blacklist.
10. The Authority recognises the benefit trade unions bring to the workplace and the rights of workers to hear from trade union representative. The Authority's contractors and their supply chain are required to allow access to nominated trade union officer from trade unions that are signatories to the appropriate national agreements. Access shall mean access to welfare facilities during working times so as to allow them to consult with their members and potential members.

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11. The Authority supports the Get Britain Building campaign, which is aimed at supporting and sustaining the British construction industry. Consequently, all relevant construction contracts will be required to comply with our Authority's Sustainable Buying Standard for Highways and Construction Materials, which requires structural steel and other relevant materials to be covered by BES 6001 Responsible Sourcing of Construction Product certification, or equivalent.

(c) **Motion Submitted by the Liberal Democrats Group - Air Quality Monitoring**

This Council notes:

- The rising risk posed to all Trafford Residents caused by Air Pollution in and around the borough
- The additional risk posed to Children and the Elderly
- The growing amount of research - including retrospective cohort study carried out by researchers from Kings College, The University of London, Imperial College London and others - which strongly links rising air pollution to an increase in cases and severity of Dementia and Alzheimer's

This Council resolves to undertake a full review of air quality monitoring in Trafford, which will include:

- Drafting proposals for additional monitoring sites as well as the inclusion of PM 2.5 monitors
- Exploring supplementary monitoring measures such as increased use of diffusion tubes and the use of mobile air monitors
- A report on quality control and data analysis

This Council also resolves to:

- Open up the council's air quality data to the public at every opportunity, including the provision of new 'land use regression maps' so that new pollutants can be identified and monitoring provisions can be reviewed over time
- Work with all stake holders to encourage the use of electric vehicles and increase the number of electric charging points across the borough
- Introduce signage around level crossings and schools advising motorists to switch off their engines where appropriate
- Ensure that future planning developments incorporate pollutant absorbent vegetation such as new trees and 'Green Walls' to help reduce resident exposure

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- Install feeder pillars, or other forms of connectivity, to the electricity grid as an alternative source of power to enable rides and traders using diesel generators in areas of our town centres with high pedestrian footfall to use alternative cleaner sources of power
- Instruct the license committee to consider clean sources of power when granting licensing

This Council asks the Leader of the Council to write to the Mayor of Greater Manchester as well as the leaders of neighbouring local authorities encouraging them to adopt the above measures and encouraging cooperation across the region.

(d) Motion Submitted by the Labour Group - Green New Deal

The Council notes:

- Its declaration of a 'climate emergency' and commitment to adopt radical measures to combat climate change supported by the provision of Carbon Neutrality training to council members and staff.
- To prevent the worst effects of climate change, we must keep global temperature rises below 1.5°C. Over 1°C of warming has taken place since the start of the industrial revolution causing huge environmental damage, with populations in the Global South suffering the most. Tackling climate change is thus indivisible from social, racial and economic justice.
- The Conservative Government is supporting the fracking industry and has cut support for renewable, environmentally clean technologies.
- In light of this it is important Government, as well as Local Government and GM Combined Authority plays its full part in achieving carbon neutrality as soon as possible and no later than the GM target of 2038.

The Council therefore calls on the Government, as a matter of urgency, to adopt the following Green New Deal: a state-led programme of investment and regulation for the decarbonisation and transformation of our economy that reduces inequality and pursues efforts to keep global average temperature rises below 1.5°C.

This should include:

- Commitment to zero carbon emissions by 2038, as the 2050 target recently agreed in Parliament is too late to prevent the 1.5°C in global temperature.
- Rapidly phasing out all fossil fuels.
- Large-scale investment in renewables.

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- A just transition to well-paid, unionised, green jobs available for all.
- A green industrial revolution expanding public, democratic ownership as far as necessary for the transformation.
- Green public integrated transport that connects Britain.
- Supporting developing countries' climate transitions by increasing transfers of finance, technology and capacity.
- Assuring everyone's basic rights through the provision of universal services.
- Welcoming climate refugees while taking measures against the displacement of peoples from their country of origin due to climate change.
- Supporting existing and emerging companies specialising in neutralising existing levels of carbon.

(e) **Motion Submitted by the Green Party Group - Increasing Urban Street Trees**

This Council believes:

That the City of Trees i-Tree survey of 2018 declared that Greater Manchester's 11.3 million trees provide an annual environmental and economic benefit of £33 million which benefits Trafford. Trafford's streets currently number 18,000 trees but a net increase of 20% - approx. 3,600 – will increase biodiversity, bring environmental benefits and wellbeing to residents.

This Council notes:

- Trees are still the cheapest way to absorb and sequester carbon from the atmosphere which contributes to limiting the harmful effects of climate change.
- Trees remove pollutants from the air which improves air quality. There's up to a 60% reduction in street level particulates they reduce ozone, nitrogen oxides, sulphur dioxides, carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide.
- Trees create ecosystems that provide increased biodiversity for many animals.
- Trees help control intense rain run-off and help to improve water quality and reduce flooding.
- Trees have many benefits for residents: they provide a proven sense of wellbeing.

Trafford Council resolves to:

- Undertake a year-long audit to identify suitable locations in urban areas to increase tree coverage and undertake resident consultation and report to Executive by July 2020.

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- Set ambitious targets to increase our urban street trees and TMBC to consider the Government's Urban Tree Challenge Fund to assist this [1].
- Ensure that tree coverage is consistent across the borough and consider nearby green spaces where a lack of suitable streets exist.
- Seek out partnerships with the Woodland Trust, City of Trees and the Forestry Commission to fully move to UK-sourced trees that are disease-free and fully traceable.
- Increase native varieties of small, medium and large sized trees and match these to local conditions.
- Further promote the Adopt-a-Tree scheme to residents, community groups and schools.
- Become a member of the Champion Trees Register [2] to celebrate our outstanding trees.

1. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/urban-tree-challenge-fund>

2. <https://www.treeregister.org/aboutus.shtml>

(f) **Motion Submitted by the Green Party Group - Reduce Grass Cutting to Increase Biodiversity in Parks and Roadsides**

This Council notes:

Scientists have reported that our planet faces a biodiversity crisis that is threatening the planet's eco-system and we need to reverse that decline [1]. This council can be proactive by reducing grass verge maintenance which will encourage habitat for insects and wildlife. By reducing maintenance on verges, parkland and other areas this council can also reduce costs: Dorset Council has saved £93,000, Burnley estimates £50,000 [2] and Rochdale Council plans £40,000 worth of savings. Over 80 per cent (81%) of the public back calls for councils to help Britain's under-threat bees by cutting areas of grass less often states a YouGov poll for Friends of the Earth and Buglife [3].

This Council believes:

- That planting more wildflowers and other bee friendly plants in their local parks and community spaces will increase biodiversity.
- Allowing some areas to remain uncut can help Trafford provide corridors for wildlife to thrive which in turn creates increased wellbeing for residents [4].
- Allowing grassland and strips to remain unmown longer can save costs [5].

This Council resolves to:

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- To undertake a year-long audit of roadside verges with the aim to reduce grass-cutting and develop a management policy to improve biodiversity, grassland and save on maintenance costs – highway safety must remain paramount.
- Develop a wildflower planting scheme like Rotherham's 'River of Flowers' and over the next year and identify suitable areas such as roundabouts and central reservations [6]
- Report to Executive by July 2020 with a report based on the roadside audit and a borough-wide consultation with residents.
- Aim to increase grassland areas within parks across the borough by reducing mowing regimes with consultation with Friend Groups and local residents [5]
- Write to the Mayor of Greater Manchester to highlight this green initiative.

1. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/feb/10/plummeting-insect-numbers-threaten-collapse-of-nature>
2. https://friendsoftheearth.uk/bees/ask-your-council-introduce-pollinator-action-plan?fbclid=IwAR1MfUXLOUdF7_R3ld_NeW0GPO0Lr65qYmu4Bca9mPI7vzIN4k5aQHqwxqw
3. <https://friendsoftheearth.uk/bees/huge-public-backing-councils-reduce-grasscutting-help-save-our-bees>
4. <https://www.rewildingbritain.org.uk/assets/uploads/Rewilding%20and%20Climate%20Breakdown%20-%20a%20report%20by%20Rewilding%20Britain.pdf>
5. <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/broadcast/read/26417>
6. https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/info/200083/roads_highways_and_pavements/793/grass_and_verges_maintenance_schedule/2

(g) **Motion Submitted by the Liberal Democrats Group - Empty Homes Premium Scheme**

This Council notes that:

- Britain faces a shortage of affordable and sustainable housing
- Current Greater Manchester Spatial Framework proposals to meet demand by building on 'greenbelt' land are highly unpopular with residents in Trafford
- There are currently more than 2,000 unoccupied and substantially unfurnished empty homes in Trafford, many of which have been empty for over two years, some considerably longer. A rise of 16% since 2017.
- There are currently more than 19,000 unoccupied and substantially unfurnished empty homes across greater Manchester
- A significant number of these properties – both in Trafford and across the city region – are considered 'unfit for human habitation'

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This Council acknowledges the Rating (Property in Common Occupation) and Council Tax (Empty Dwellings) Act 2018 enabling the use of the 'Empty Homes Premium' model - as seen in Cheshire East - as an additional means for local authorities to encourage empty homes to be brought back in to use and welcomes the inclusion of a 50% 'Empty Homes Premium' in the February 2019 budget.

This Council Requires the Executive to raise the 'Empty Homes Premium' from 50% to 100% as part of its budget (February 2020) in line with the following timescale:

- As of April 1st 2020 the 'relevant maximum' for properties empty over 2 years will be 100%

This Council also Requires the Executive to give notice of the following incremental time scale:

1. As of 1st April 2021 the 'relevant maximum' for properties empty over 5 years will be 200%
2. As of April 1st 2022 the 'relevant maximum' for properties over ten years empty will be 300%

This Council requires the Executive to investigate the feasibility of 'Capped Public Works Loans' as seen in Cheshire East, to assist with major works and help bring more properties back into use without punishing property owners.

This Council Notes the following exemptions:

- Properties requiring major works should receive an extension of up to 12 months before the 'relevant maximum' is raised
- Properties currently in 'Trust' or 'Probate' should receive an extension of up to 12 months before the 'relevant maximum is raised
- Properties left empty by a person who lives in accommodation provided by the Ministry of Defence (for example: service personnel posted away from home)
- Properties which are part of another property (for example: an annexe)

This Council Recognises that simply seeking to bring empty housing back into use is not enough to solve Britain's housing crisis, but is determined to pursue every available option, especially when it is possible to avoid development on 'Green Belt' land.

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This Council requires the Leader of the Council to:

- Write to the Mayor of Greater Manchester and the leaders of all Greater Manchester local authorities urging them to work with Trafford Council to address the housing shortage in our region by supporting the resolutions of this motion
- Write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government urging the Government highlighting the need for local authorities to be able to protect 'Greenbelt' land whilst addressing the housing shortage

(h) Motion Submitted by the Conservative Group - Members' Allowances Increases for Labour Councillors

This Council condemns the revelation that, on 22 August 2018, the Labour Group via the Leader of the Council wrote to the Corporate Director for Finance and Systems instructing that the voluntary reduction of 1.9% applied to Members Allowances since 2013/14 be reversed.

Council notes:

- This letter was submitted secretly with no public accountability or scrutiny of the change
- That the change in allowances was subsequently backdated to April 2018
- That the Labour group also requested this change to be applied to significant Special Responsibility Allowances, to ensure maximum personal financial benefit for Labour members

Council finds it abhorrent and hypocritical that this Labour administration has the audacity to talk about austerity whilst at the same time:

- increasing their own allowances, in secret without scrutiny
- trebling the cost of the Corporate Leadership Team to nearly £1million per annum in the last 10 months
- overseeing the deterioration of services in Trafford (see Children's Services) through poor leadership and management

The Council requires every Labour member to return their increased allowance to the taxpayers of Trafford and for members' allowances to be reset to the levels stipulated in 2015/16 to be consistent for all Members (i.e. 98.1% of present full allowance).

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. Baugh, J. Bennett, Miss L. Blackburn, R. Bowker, 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:

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This Summons was issued on **Tuesday, 9 July 2019** by the Legal and Democratic Services Section, Trafford Council, Trafford Town Hall, Talbot Road, Stretford M32 0TH

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