

TRAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

13 OCTOBER 2021

PRESENT

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Laurence Walsh), in the Chair.

C. Boyes (Deputy Mayor)	S.J. Gilbert	E. Patel
D. Acton	J. Harding	K. Procter
S. Adshead	W. Hassan	T. Ross
A. Akinola	S. J. Haughey	J. Slater
J.M. Axford	J. Holden	S. Taylor
Dr. K. Barclay	D. Jarman	S. Thomas
Miss L. Blackburn	D. Jerrome	R. Thompson
J. E. Brophy	J. Lamb	M.J. Welton
B. Brotherton	J. Lloyd	A. Western
D. Bunting	S. Maitland	D. Western
D. Butt	M. Minnis	M.P. Whetton
Dr. S. Carr	M. Mirza	A.M. Whyte
K.G. Carter	A. Mitchell	A.J. Williams
G. Coggins	D. Morgan	B.G. Winstanley
M. Cordingley	P. Myers	J.A. Wright
N. Evans	A. New	Mrs. P. Young
M. Freeman	J.D. Newgrosh	

In attendance

Deputy Chief Executive	S. Saleh
Corporate Director of Governance and Community Strategy	J. Le Fevre
Governance Manager	J. Addison
Business Support Officer	E. Gorman
Senior Governance Officer	I. Cockill

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J. Bennett, T. Carey, G. Carter, D.N. Chalkin, R. Chilton, L. Dagnall, J. Dillon, B. Hartley, C. Hynes, S. Longden, D.C. O'Sullivan and G. Whitham.

29. MINUTES

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 28 July 2021, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

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30. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coronavirus Infections

The Leader of the Council provided an update on Covid Infection Rates which in recent days had seen Trafford record the highest infections in the country per 100,000 head of population and advised Members that the Council was taking all steps to bring the rate of infection under control. The primary cause of the spike was believed to be a significant surge in infections in the school age population and the Council would continue to work with public health officers and take their advice on the steps needed to be taken. The key message for all residents was not to panic and to follow the basic principles of public health guidance and to take sensible steps such as regularly sanitising hands and social distancing where appropriate.

31. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

The Mayor reported that the following 4 questions had been received under Procedure Rule 10.2 and that in accordance with the procedure rules, full written answers were to be provided to the questioners at a later date and additionally the responses would be published on the Council's website.

Question 1 - Submitted by Councillor Butt

"Can the Executive Member for Culture and Leisure tell me which parks have damaged play equipment, what items are damaged and when will the equipment be repaired?"

Question 2 - Submitted by Councillor Morgan

"Recently, some Trafford households received a letter with a Trafford Council logo on it in a GMCA envelope telling the householder that they may be eligible for a government backed Green Homes Grant. Can the Executive Member for Environmental and Regulatory Services, whose name was on the letter tell me how much it cost to design and deliver the letter, who funded it and how was it decided which homes received the letter?"

Question 3 - Submitted by Councillor Mirza

"The Hong Kong British National (Overseas) (BN(O)) visa opened on 31 January 2021 and delivers on the UK Government's historic and moral commitment to the people of Hong Kong. As many families from Hong Kong have settled in Trafford through the visa programme we have as Conservatives councillors reached out to them and welcomed them but it is vital we get it right as a council. Specifically relating to accessing English courses (ESOL), can the Executive Member for Communities and Partnerships tell me what the timeline and plan is to make new arrivals from Hong Kong aware of the language courses available?"

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Question 4 – Submitted by Councillor Morgan

“Can I ask the Deputy Leader of the Council and Executive Member for Children’s Services what plans the Council have to support the National Adoption Week beginning next Monday?”

32. GREEN PARTY GROUP LEADERSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

The Council was informed of changes to the leadership of the Green Party Group and were requested to note a number of consequential changes to the membership of Committees, as agreed by the Deputy Chief Executive under delegated authority.

Councillor Jerrome placed on record his thanks to Councillor Coggins for leading the Green Party as a new Group on the Council and for her accomplishments in that time, making a positive difference for the residents of the Borough.

RESOLVED: That the Council notes:

(a) Green Party Group Leadership

With effect from 6 September 2021, Councillor Coggins stood down as Leader of the Green Party Group with Councillor Jerrome becoming Group Leader and Councillor Welton Deputy Leader.

(b) Accounts and Audit Committee

Councillor Jerrome replaced Councillor Coggins as a member of the Accounts and Audit Committee, with effect from 6 September 2021.

(c) Planning and Development Management Committee

With effect from 6 September 2021, Councillor Welton replaced Councillor Jerrome as a member of the Planning and Development Management Committee and consequently, Councillor Jerrome was appointed to the Substitute member position previously held by Councillor Welton.

(d) Standards Committee

Councillor Jerrome replaced Councillor Coggins as a member of the Standards Committee, with effect from 6 September 2021.

(e) Licensing Committee and Public Protection Sub- Committee

Councillor Coggins replaced Councillor Welton on the Licensing Committee and as a member of the Public Protection Sub-Committee, with effect from 6 September 2021.

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33. PETITION - NO ROADS ACROSS CARRINGTON MOSS

Lead petitioner, Anna Chopping introduced the following petition containing 1632 signatures, which had been presented to the Council:

“We respectfully request that Trafford Council do not agree to build any new roads across or through Carrington Moss. The proposal to build a bridge across the Manchester Ship Canal, as set out in Trafford’s 2012 Core Strategy, should be fully explored. We believe this would be a much more effective solution to alleviate the existing traffic problems in the area, without impacting the health and wellbeing of the local populations of both humans and wildlife.”

The lead petitioner explained that, as a resident of Carrington Village and Secretary of the Friends of Carrington Moss, she spoke on behalf of all those local signatories overwhelmed by development in their area and requested that the Council give consideration to 3 main requests for:

- more consultation;
- alternative options to the building of roads across Carrington Moss; and
- more consideration of the environmental impact of the road proposal in the wake of the climate emergency.

Explaining that local people were feeling powerless and fearful as well as angry that planning and development appeared to be carried out despite, rather than for the community, residents were requesting a seat at the table and involvement at the design stage of plans for their locality. To date there had not been any consultation with the local community regarding the strategic agenda for the Carrington Relief Road. Carrington Village was desperate to stop the large number of HGVs on the roads in their village but the proposal did not promise to deliver any benefits or ‘relief’ to residents suffering daily from the vehicles. Rather than health, wellbeing and basic safety, the key objective of scheme was about increasing capacity to deliver growth.

Regarding alternative options there was no discussion about alternative tram or train connections or options to make safer, more sustainable transport choices that reduce the reliance on cars or even a commitment to improve public transport. It was understood that there was time limited external funding for the scheme which could be at risk, however, a decision now would ultimately cost more in the long term to the local environment and habitat. Emphasising that the Friends Group was not anti-development and wished to engender progressive change, professional reviews, however, by the Countryside Charity, Natural England and the Cheshire and Lancashire Wildlife Trusts, of the places for everyone proposals were damning and an appeal was made to Members to read them as there was nowhere else in Trafford as unique as Carrington Moss.

Councillor Wright the Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration and Councillors Evans, Newgrosh and Coggins responded to the petition on behalf of the political parties and made the following points:

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Councillor Wright: Sustainable development was the main issue and how to provide the social and economic opportunities that current and future residents need without sacrificing environmental assets. The Council was not promoting transport improvements which included a new road without good reason with the aim of providing people a home of their own and the prosperity and opportunity that derived from full and secure employment. A full assessment of route options was undertaken and a new route was considered more beneficial than one based on the current road. In terms of the impact on any peat moss, investigations had been undertaken in relation to potential carbon emissions due to peat/soil disturbance and a thin layer of peat was found in an isolated trial hole that in itself was insufficient to change the overall carbon performance of the two routes. It should be noted that the peat was not expected to be disturbed. A full environment scoping report would be prepared for the planning application which was the appropriate stage for the detailed assessment and Natural England would be consulted as part of the process.

Inconsistency was suggested with the petition regarding road building with objection to roads to the east of the area, whilst they were acceptable to the west. The Carrington Relief Road was a part of a series of transport measures planned for the area and would provide safe cycling to the rest of Trafford for the first time. Combined with Greater Manchester reform it would facilitate swifter links by bus, however, the road on its own would never be an answer to the transport challenges of the area. The Council subscribed to the Transport for Greater Manchester 2040 Transport Strategy, which was clear that fundamental change in the way we travel was vital for future movements in the City Region.

For Carrington, reuse of the former rail corridor was proposed for green travel and links to the adjacent areas of Trafford and the Metrolink and also the Council was in discussion with Salford Council regarding the use of the Cadishead viaduct and links to Irlam station. A bridge could compliment planned transport improvements but it was not viewed as a substitute for them.

The Council was taking a responsible approach of tackling transport problems in the present and the link road was a vital component in a planned suite of improvements.

Councillor Evans: There was no doubt improved access was needed to the area with multiple homes planned. Alternatives to the current road had been explored over numerous years and he suggested that the Council should be bold and perhaps imagine re-instating the Moss and to come up with a different solution.

Councillor Newgrosh: Supported the petition and the suggestion that all of Trafford would benefit from the re-instatement of the railway in the area, whilst if improved road links were needed, a bridge to the west would work from an ecological and sustainable solution rather than a road over moss.

Councillor Coggins: Spoke of the issues associated with the proposed road:

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- biodiversity loss in one of Trafford's wildest and greenest spaces;
- carbon emissions and air pollution from the extra traffic it would invite over many decades;
- the lost carbon sequestration opportunities as a result of building over degraded wetland rather than restoration; and
- the potential health and wellbeing impact through increased car dependence.

Carrington and Partington were struggling with congestion and poor transport options but measures were available to the Council to tackle them. Whilst there was evidence of new roads attracting new traffic, no modelling had been undertaken on projected usage and congestion.

Following the discussion the Leader of the Council, Councillor Andrew Western thanked Ms. Chopping and the residents for bringing the petition to Council and summarised the Council's response.

The Leader acknowledged that it was clearly a significant issue that was controversial across Trafford communities and wished to state that the Controlling Group had been consistent on its position as to why the relief road was needed, fundamentally the transformative impact it would have on the Partington and Carrington communities. The Council had heard alternative measures suggested that evening, however, they would not solve the problems of poor connectivity and poor transport infrastructure in the area. Whilst the Council would mitigate as best it could, the right to a good quality job and a safe and warm home were the Council's priorities.

34. SALARY AND BENEFITS PACKAGE IN EXCESS OF £100,000

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report advising the Council of a Director salary and benefits package that was going to exceed £100,000 for a temporary period and that it was vital to ensure that the Council continued to have a robust approach to the pandemic response and recovery planning.

In response to a question, the Leader of the Council advised he would provide Councillor Jerrome with the specific reasons as to why the issue had not come to light earlier and would suggest an investigation of measures designed to auto-flag any similar occurrence, should in the future, any additional payments breach the officers' scheme of delegation.

RESOLVED: That the salary and benefits package for the Director of Public Health, be approved as set out in the report.

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35. GREATER MANCHESTER MINIMUM LICENSING STANDARDS FOR TAXI AND PRIVATE HIRE STAGE 1

The Executive Member for Environmental and Regulatory Services submitted a report setting out the proposed Greater Manchester Minimum Licensing Standards for Taxi and Private Hire which had been referred from the Executive meeting on 27 September 2021. The report represented Stage One of the Standards which relate to Drivers, Operators and Local Authorities and set out the responses to the recent public and trade consultation for Stage One and outlined the proposed standards, policies and procedures. Stage Two related to Vehicles and it was anticipated that those proposals would be reported to the Executive in October 2021.

Councillor Miss Blackburn referred to Standard 6 Driver Training (page 33 of the report) and Councillor Adshead indicated that he would reply directly regarding the frequency of the training and what would happen should a driver refuse the training and whether the relevant authority would be notified of refusal by a driver from outside the area.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Enhanced Criminal Record checks be undertaken as per Driver Standard 1 in table A of the report.
- (2) That Medical Checks be undertaken as per Driver Standard 2 in table A of the report.
- (3) That assessments of English proficiency be undertaken as per Driver Standard 4 in table A of the report.
- (4) That driver proficiency tests be implemented as per Driver Standard 5 in table A of the report.
- (5) That driver training is undertaken as per Driver Standard 6 in table A of the report.
- (6) That the Licensed Drivers Dress Code, set out at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.
- (7) That the Private Hire Driver Conditions Policy, set out at Appendix 2 to the report, be approved.
- (8) That the Private Hire Operator Conditions Policy, set out at Appendix 3 to the report be approved and that Council notes the proposed amendments to Operator Conditions set out at Appendix 4.
- (9) That Enhanced Criminal Record checks for Operators and their staff be undertaken as per Operator Standard 2 in table B of the report.

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- (10) That the timescales for applications be adopted, as per Local Authority Standard 1 in Table C of the report.
- (11) That the development of a common enforcement approach be approved, as per Local Authority Standard 2 in Table C of the report.
- (12) That a common methodology for setting the costs and calculating the taxi and private hire fees be adopted, as per Local Authority Standard 3 in Table C of the report.
- (13) That the Council delegates decision making powers, as per Local Authority Standard 5 in Table C of the report.
- (14) That the implementation dates for standards, policies and procedures contained within the report, be delegated to the Corporate Director of Place, in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment and Regulatory Services, with consideration of the need to communicate changes to the trade and ensure that processes are in place to ensure the robust implementation of the standards.

36. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE GREEN PARTY GROUP - UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME TRIAL (DEFERRED FROM COUNCIL ON 28 JULY 2021)

RESOLVED: That the Council notes that the Motion has been withdrawn.

37. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATS GROUP - HONGKONGERS IN TRAFFORD

It was moved and seconded that:

“As a result of the Chinese government’s imposition of new ‘national security’ laws and the British government’s policy shift on British National (Overseas) [BN(O)] visas, many people are choosing to emigrate to the UK from Hong Kong. The Home Office predicts that as many as 300,000 Hongkongers may choose to relocate to Britain with many choosing to settle in Trafford and elsewhere across Greater Manchester. This Council recognises and welcomes the enormous contribution that immigrants of all nationalities and backgrounds have made to British life. The historical, political and economic factors currently surrounding democratic freedoms in Hong Kong make the decision to emigrate particularly stressful for many Hongkongers. There are several considerations and measures that local authorities can take to extend the warmest possible welcome to everyone who decides to make the journey to the UK.

This Council notes:

- That the Home Office figure of 300,000 migrants from Hong Kong is an estimation for the next 5 years and that – with around 70% of the population of Hong Kong being eligible for BN(O) status – that number may rise considerably.

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- The 'Coming for Hope' report published by 'Hongkongers in Britain', which indicates the following:
 - That the mean age of applicants is 37 and that 71% of applicants hold a university degree.
 - That 16% of those surveyed say they cannot afford the cost of living for the first 6 months after arriving in the UK.
 - That, of those surveyed, 73% expect to have difficulty finding accommodation, 57% are concerned about living costs and 48% are anxious about finding employment.
 - That 96% of respondents felt that Hong Kong was no longer a 'safe and free home'.
 - That Home Office estimates suggest a net benefit to government finances of between £2.4 and £2.9 billion over five years as a result of the arrival of highly skilled migrants from Hong Kong.

This Council also notes the advice and guidance that is available through the governments 'Hong Kong UK Welcome Programme'.

This Council welcomes:

- The provision of up to £2,720 per BN(O) household for destitution support.
- The government's commitment to set up 12 new 'Welcome Hubs' across the UK, to support the settlement of BN(O) holders.

This Council resolves to:

- Monitor the intake of Hong Kong children into Trafford's schools and allocate additional resources for 'English as a Second Language' and Personal, Social, Health and Economic education to aid with integration.
- Assist parents of children with special educational needs by providing information on the 'SEN Local Offer' and Educational Health Care Plans in Cantonese through the council website.
- Write to the Minister for Housing, Communities and Local Government to express Trafford's interest in contributing to and forming part of the UK's new Hong Kong 'Welcome Hubs'.
- Ensure progress on the resolutions of this motion are regularly reported back to this council and are incorporated into the Executive Member for Communities and Partnerships brief."

It was moved and seconded as an amendment that:

"As a result of the Chinese government's imposition of new 'national security' laws and the British government's policy shift on British National (Overseas) [BN(O)] visas, many people are choosing to emigrate to the UK from Hong Kong. The Home Office predicts that as many as 300,000 Hongkongers may choose to relocate to Britain with many choosing to settle in Trafford and elsewhere across Greater Manchester. This Council recognises and

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welcomes the enormous contribution that immigrants of all nationalities and backgrounds have made to British life. **We are proud that Trafford has seen a particularly high number of Hongkongers move in to the borough in recent months, and formally welcome them here and express our delight that they have chosen to make Trafford their home.**

The historical, political and economic factors currently surrounding democratic freedoms in Hong Kong make the decision to emigrate particularly stressful for many Hongkongers. There are several considerations and measures that local authorities can take to extend the warmest possible welcome to everyone who decides to make the journey to the UK.

This Council notes:

- That the Home Office figure of 300,000 migrants from Hong Kong is an estimation for the next 5 years and that – with around 70% of the population of Hong Kong being eligible for BN(O) status – that number may rise considerably.
- The ‘Coming for Hope’ report published by ‘Hongkongers in Britain’, which indicates the following:
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- That 16% of those surveyed say they cannot afford the cost of living for the first 6 months after arriving in the UK.
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- That 96% of respondents felt that Hong Kong was no longer a ‘safe and free home’.
- That Home Office estimates suggest a net benefit to government finances of between £2.4 and £2.9 billion over five years as a result of the arrival of highly skilled migrants from Hong Kong.

This Council also notes the advice and guidance that is available through the governments ‘Hong Kong UK Welcome Programme’.

This Council welcomes:

- The provision of up to £2,720 per BN(O) household for destitution support.
- The government’s commitment to set up 12 new ‘Welcome Hubs’ across the UK, to support the settlement of BN(O) holders.

Following a recent meeting between the Leader of the Council, the Acting Chief Executive, and representatives of Trafford Hongkongers, Council further acknowledges:

- **That there have unfortunately been a small number of hate crime incidents experienced by Hongkongers in recent months.**

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- **That many Hongkongers are experiencing delays in receiving National Insurance numbers from the DWP, impacting on their ability to find work.**
- **That Trafford's Skills Coordinator and ESOL Coordinator are fully engaged with Trafford's growing Hong Kong community, and are actively signposting Hongkongers to training, employment opportunities and conversation groups.**

This Council resolves to:

- **Stand against any and all hate crime in Trafford as a borough that values tolerance and inclusion and is proud of our diversity.**
- Monitor the intake of Hong Kong children **and other children for whom English is a second language** into Trafford's schools and allocate ~~additional~~ resources for 'English as a Second Language' and Personal, Social, Health and Economic education to aid with integration **in accordance with need.**
- ~~Assist parents of children with special educational needs by providing information on the 'SEN Local Offer' and Educational Health Care Plans in Cantonese through the council website.~~ **Work with the Trafford Hongkongers Group to ensure that relevant information can be cascaded in Cantonese to those residents who require it, noting that this dissemination has already commenced.**
- Write to the ~~Minister for Housing, Communities and Local Government~~ **Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities** to express Trafford's interest in contributing to and forming part of the UK's new Hong Kong 'Welcome Hubs' **subject to the necessary funding to make this a success being made available by government.**
- **Write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to ask that more is done to swiftly expedite the allocation of National Insurance numbers for Hongkongers, recognising that they do not have recourse to public funds.**
- Ensure progress on the resolutions of this motion are ~~regularly~~ reported back to this Council and ~~are incorporated into the Executive Member for Communities and Partnerships brief~~ **that relevant Executive Members subsume these actions into their duties as appropriate at the instruction of the Council Leader."**

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

RESOLVED: That as a result of the Chinese government's imposition of new 'national security' laws and the British government's policy shift on British National (Overseas) [BN(O)] visas, many people are choosing to emigrate to the UK from Hong Kong. The Home Office predicts that as many as 300,000 Hongkongers may choose to relocate to Britain with many choosing to settle in Trafford and elsewhere across Greater Manchester. This Council recognises and welcomes the enormous contribution that immigrants of all

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nationalities and backgrounds have made to British life. We are proud that Trafford has seen a particularly high number of Hongkongers move in to the borough in recent months, and formally welcome them here and express our delight that they have chosen to make Trafford their home.

The historical, political and economic factors currently surrounding democratic freedoms in Hong Kong make the decision to emigrate particularly stressful for many Hongkongers. There are several considerations and measures that local authorities can take to extend the warmest possible welcome to everyone who decides to make the journey to the UK.

This Council notes:

- That the Home Office figure of 300,000 migrants from Hong Kong is an estimation for the next 5 years and that – with around 70% of the population of Hong Kong being eligible for BN(O) status – that number may rise considerably.
- The ‘Coming for Hope’ report published by ‘Hongkongers in Britain’, which indicates the following:
 - That the mean age of applicants is 37 and that 71% of applicants hold a university degree.
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 - That, of those surveyed, 73% expect to have difficulty finding accommodation, 57% are concerned about living costs and 48% are anxious about finding employment.
 - That 96% of respondents felt that Hong Kong was no longer a ‘safe and free home’.
 - That Home Office estimates suggest a net benefit to government finances of between £2.4 and £2.9 billion over five years as a result of the arrival of highly skilled migrants from Hong Kong.

This Council also notes the advice and guidance that is available through the governments ‘Hong Kong UK Welcome Programme’.

This Council welcomes:

- The provision of up to £2,720 per BN(O) household for destitution support.
- The government’s commitment to set up 12 new ‘Welcome Hubs’ across the UK, to support the settlement of BN(O) holders.

Following a recent meeting between the Leader of the Council, the Acting Chief Executive, and representatives of Trafford Hongkongers, Council further acknowledges:

- That there have unfortunately been a small number of hate crime incidents experienced by Hongkongers in recent months.

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- That many Hongkongers are experiencing delays in receiving National Insurance numbers from the DWP, impacting on their ability to find work.
- That Trafford's Skills Coordinator and ESOL Coordinator are fully engaged with Trafford's growing Hong Kong community, and are actively signposting Hongkongers to training, employment opportunities and conversation groups.

This Council resolves to:

- Stand against any and all hate crime in Trafford as a borough that values tolerance and inclusion and is proud of our diversity.
- Monitor the intake of Hong Kong children and other children for whom English is a second language into Trafford's schools and allocate resources for 'English as a Second Language' and Personal, Social, Health and Economic education to aid with integration in accordance with need.
- Work with the Trafford Hongkongers Group to ensure that relevant information can be cascaded in Cantonese to those residents who require it, noting that this dissemination has already commenced.
- Write to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to express Trafford's interest in contributing to and forming part of the UK's new Hong Kong 'Welcome Hubs' subject to the necessary funding to make this a success being made available by government.
- Write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to ask that more is done to swiftly expedite the allocation of National Insurance numbers for Hongkongers, recognising that they do not have recourse to public funds.
- Ensure progress on the resolutions of this motion are reported back to this Council and that relevant Executive Members subsume these actions into their duties as appropriate at the instruction of the Council Leader.

38. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE GREEN PARTY GROUP - EMPOWERING TRAFFORD TO TAKE CLIMATE ACTION

It was moved and seconded that:

"This Council acknowledges that in order to tackle the climate crisis we must empower residents and council officers to take action. In order to enable everyone to act with sufficient urgency, the Council's procedures must be better aligned with its priorities.

The Council has also learned about dealing with crises from the pandemic and lessons learnt from Covid can give examples of how council systems can treat the climate emergency as an emergency.

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This Council resolves to:

- Emphasise urgency in the language we use around the climate. Where possible the Council, its Councillors and officers should choose the language of 'climate crisis' or 'climate emergency' – not the more passive 'climate change' or 'global warming'.
- Carry out a case study on the way that the community hubs were created, in a nimble and effective way at a crucial stage in the pandemic. See what lessons can be learnt for the climate crisis response in terms of how the Council can act quickly and with impact. Report back on what lessons can be learnt in terms of creating an urgent and nimble response to a crisis.
- Events and buildings: ensure that alongside accessibility information, council building and events highlight how to access them by walking / cycling / using public transport. Currently the Town Hall part of the website only talks about parking options, despite being on National Cycle Network route 55, and extremely near to Old Trafford tram and several bus stops.
- Highlight the Council's climate emergency web pages on the front page of the Council's website. This will enable residents to easily find information on what the Council is doing. It will also raise awareness the urgency of the crisis by highlighting it to everyone who comes to the council's home page.
- To review our HR policy in respect of dress codes. These need to explicitly support staff and officers who chose to commute or travel for work by active or public transport. Too often spoken or unspoken assumptions about what looks professional stop people using active or public transport when they would otherwise like to.
- In advance of COP26 to add our voice to calls for a joint local and national government task force on reaching 'net zero' emissions. This partnership could set regulations, benchmarks and targets and create long-term funding mechanisms to enable local communities to decarbonise whilst remaining resilient and sustainable.
- Write to Alok Sharma MP, President for COP26, the Prime Minister and the Leadership Board of the LGA informing them of our support for a joint Local/National Government Climate Change Partnership Taskforce and asking for one to be established as soon as possible."

It was moved and seconded as an amendment that:

"This Council acknowledges that in order to tackle the climate crisis we must empower **and enable** residents and council officers to take action. In order to ~~enable everyone~~ to act with sufficient urgency, the Council's procedures ~~must~~ **should be better** aligned with its priorities **in this area**."

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~~The Council has also learned about dealing with crises from the pandemic and lessons learnt from Covid can give examples of how council systems can treat the climate emergency as an emergency.~~

This Council resolves to:

- ~~Emphasise urgency in the language we use around the climate. Where possible the Council, its Councillors and officers should choose the language of 'climate crisis' or 'climate emergency' — not the more passive 'climate change' or 'global warming'.~~
- ~~Carry out a case study on the way that the community hubs were created, in a nimble and effective way at a crucial stage in the pandemic. See what lessons can be learnt for the climate crisis response in terms of how the Council can act quickly and with impact. Report back on what lessons can be learnt in terms of creating an urgent and nimble response to a crisis.~~
- Events and buildings: ensure that alongside accessibility information, council building and events highlight how to access them by walking / cycling / using public transport. Currently the Town Hall part of the website only talks about parking options, despite being on National Cycle Network route 55, and extremely near to Old Trafford tram and several bus stops.
- ~~Highlight the Council's climate emergency web pages on the front page of the Council's website **Ensure that information on the Council's progress on addressing the climate emergency can be easily accessed from the home page of the Council's Website as part of the overhaul of the website content planned as part of the Trafford Digital Strategy 2020-2023.** This will enable residents to easily find information on what the Council is doing. It will also raise awareness of the urgency of the crisis by highlighting it to everyone who comes to the Council's home page.~~
- To review our HR policy in respect of dress codes **in line with professional advice from officers to** ~~These need to explicitly~~ support staff and officers who chose to commute or travel for work by active or public transport **whilst ensuring the Council maintains a professional appearance in its customer facing work.** Too often spoken or unspoken assumptions about what looks professional stop people using active or public transport when they would otherwise like to. **To also ensure that information is available on the council intranet about the cycling and changing facilities available to staff.**
- ~~In advance of COP26 to add our voice to calls for a joint local and national government task force on reaching 'net zero' emissions. This partnership could set regulations, benchmarks and targets and create long-term funding mechanisms to enable local communities to decarbonise whilst remaining resilient and sustainable.~~

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- ~~Write to Alok Sharma MP, President for COP26, the Prime Minister and the Leadership Board of the LGA informing them of our support for a joint Local/National Government Climate Change Partnership Taskforce and asking for one to be established as soon as possible.~~
- **As there is still no formal relationship between local and national government on climate action, write to Alok Sharma MP, President for COP26, to request the establishment of a formal Local and National Government Climate Crisis Taskforce to collaboratively work together towards net zero emissions, as advocated by the Local Government Association and other bodies.”**

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

RESOLVED: That this Council acknowledges that in order to tackle the climate crisis we must empower and enable residents and council officers to take action. In order to act with sufficient urgency, the Council’s procedures should align with its priorities in this area.

This Council resolves to:

- Events and buildings: ensure that alongside accessibility information, council building and events highlight how to access them by walking / cycling / using public transport. Currently the Town Hall part of the website only talks about parking options, despite being on National Cycle Network route 55, and extremely near to Old Trafford tram and several bus stops.
- Ensure that information on the Council’s progress on addressing the climate emergency can be easily accessed from the home page of the Council’s Website as part of the overhaul of the website content planned as part of the Trafford Digital Strategy 2020-2023. This will enable residents to easily find information on what the Council is doing. It will also raise awareness of the urgency of the crisis by highlighting it to everyone who comes to the Council’s home page.
- To review our HR policy in respect of dress codes in line with professional advice from officers to support staff and officers who chose to commute or travel for work by active or public transport whilst ensuring the Council maintains a professional appearance in its customer facing work. Too often spoken or unspoken assumptions about what looks professional stop people using active or public transport when they would otherwise like to. To also ensure that information is available on the council intranet about the cycling and changing facilities available to staff.
- As there is still no formal relationship between local and national government on climate action, write to Alok Sharma MP, President for

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COP26, to request the establishment of a formal Local and National Government Climate Crisis Taskforce to collaboratively work together towards net zero emissions, as advocated by the Local Government Association and other bodies.

39. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE LABOUR GROUP - TACKLING HEALTH INEQUALITIES IN TRAFFORD

It was moved and seconded that:

“This Council notes:

- From the beginning of the 20th century, England experienced continuous improvements in life expectancy but from 2011 these improvements slowed dramatically, almost grinding to a halt. For part of the decade 2010-2020 life expectancy actually fell in the most deprived communities outside London for women and in some regions for men. For men and women everywhere the time spent in poor health is increasing.
- The health of the population is not just a matter of how well the health service is funded and functions, important as that is: health is closely linked to the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age and inequities in power, money and resources – the social determinants of health.
- Government spending has decreased most in the most deprived places and cuts in services outside health and social care have hit more deprived communities hardest.
- Approximately 11.6% of children aged 0-16 in Trafford (an estimated 5,085 children) live in poverty, with this percentage rising to almost 40% in some of the most deprived wards: well above the regional or national averages. Poverty and deprivation can damage the health and wellbeing of children and young people and have severe impacts on ‘life chances’.
- Life expectancy is 9.3 years lower for men and 7.4 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Trafford than in the least deprived areas.
- The Marmot review into health inequalities of 2020 found that Covid 19 death rates were a quarter higher in Greater Manchester than the rest of England. The more impoverished a local authority, the higher its mortality rate.

This Council believes:

- As a local authority we have a crucial role to play in tackling some of the widest and most entrenched health inequalities across our Borough.

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- Tackling health inequalities should be a priority across all the local authority's areas of responsibility.
- All councillors, whether members of the Executive or Scrutiny and in our community and casework roles, can play a positive role in championing the work we do to reduce health inequalities and tackle the wider determinants of health.
- Levelling up will only succeed if there is investment across all local government.

This Council resolves to:

Consider how Trafford meet the six policy objectives of the Marmot review 2020 as part of Scrutiny, Health & Wellbeing Board and sub board work plans.

Give every child the best start in life.

Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives.

Create fair employment and good work for all.

Ensure a healthy standard of living for all.

Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities.

Develop a health and social care system that prioritises not just the treatment of ill health but also focuses on how it can be prevented in the first place.

Consider the health inequality impact on all our decision making.

Write to Ministers to request an urgent reversal of cuts to public health budgets in order that Councils can truly work to reduce the health inequalities that Covid 19 has so starkly highlighted."

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

RESOLVED: That this Council notes:

- From the beginning of the 20th century, England experienced continuous improvements in life expectancy but from 2011 these improvements slowed dramatically, almost grinding to a halt. For part of the decade 2010-2020 life expectancy actually fell in the most deprived communities outside London for women and in some regions for men. For men and women everywhere the time spent in poor health is increasing.

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- All councillors, whether members of the Executive or Scrutiny and in our community and casework roles, can play a positive role in championing the work we do to reduce health inequalities and tackle the wider determinants of health.
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40. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE LABOUR GROUP - SOCIAL CARE FUNDING

It was moved and seconded that:

“Council notes that on 7 September this year the Prime Minister announced plans to reform how people pay for adult social care in England and the introduction of a new Health and Social Care Levy.

Council recognises that plans for adult social care reform are long overdue and that the financial sustainability of the sector is at risk. However this Council is deeply concerned that the Prime Minister’s announcement does not amount to reform; does not appear to improve the current funding position, and will have a significant financial impact on working people.

In particular, Council notes:

- That the provision of social care is one of our most important duties as a local authority.
- That the current situation in adult and children’s social care is an emergency after 11 years of austerity and that the funding of adult and children’s social care in England is in crisis.
- That the overwhelming majority of funding arising from the new Health and Social Care Levy will be spent on dealing with the current NHS backlog rather than on social care.
- That the Conservatives went into the 2019 election claiming they had a plan for social care which did not involve increasing income tax or National Insurance.
- That a National Insurance increase impacts working people and struggling businesses without taxing income from unearned wealth.
- That this proposal considers the future of adult social care funding only, and does nothing to address the issues in the funding of children’s social care.

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Council, therefore, calls on the Government to review their proposed changes, to properly fund social care, and to look at a mechanism to do so that asks those with the broadest shoulders to pay their fair share of the burden.

Council resolves that the Leader of the Council write to the Prime Minister outlining these concerns.”

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

RESOLVED: That Council notes that on 7 September this year the Prime Minister announced plans to reform how people pay for adult social care in England and the introduction of a new Health and Social Care Levy.

Council recognises that plans for adult social care reform are long overdue and that the financial sustainability of the sector is at risk. However this Council is deeply concerned that the Prime Minister’s announcement does not amount to reform; does not appear to improve the current funding position, and will have a significant financial impact on working people.

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Council, therefore, calls on the Government to review their proposed changes, to properly fund social care, and to look at a mechanism to do so that asks those with the broadest shoulders to pay their fair share of the burden.

Council resolves that the Leader of the Council write to the Prime Minister outlining these concerns.

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41. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE LABOUR GROUP - VOTER ID

It was moved and seconded that:

“Council notes Government plans to legislate to require people to show an approved form of identification in order to vote.

Council believes that this is an expensive and unnecessary change that will cost the taxpayer millions of pounds. In particular, Council recognises that:

- Public confidence in the running of elections is at its highest since 2012.
- Research for the Cabinet Office found that more than 2 million people do not have recognisable photographic ID.
- Women are considerably less likely than men - and black people considerably less likely than white people - to have a driving licence; whilst certain ethnic groups are much less likely than the average to have a passport.
- The cost of requiring photo ID at elections will be circa £40 million over the next decade.
- At the last General Election there were 47 million registered electors and just one conviction for electoral personation.

This Council, therefore, opposes these changes which could lead to widespread disenfranchisement and voter suppression, with marginalised communities and those with protected characteristics the most likely to be impacted by this change.”

(Note: During the debate, the time being 9:21 p.m., the Mayor indicated that speeches on this matter would now be limited to a maximum of two minutes per speaker.)

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

RESOLVED: That Council notes Government plans to legislate to require people to show an approved form of identification in order to vote.

Council believes that this is an expensive and unnecessary change that will cost the taxpayer millions of pounds. In particular, Council recognises that:

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This Council, therefore, opposes these changes which could lead to widespread disenfranchisement and voter suppression, with marginalised communities and those with protected characteristics the most likely to be impacted by this change.

The meeting commenced at 7.00 p.m. and finished at 9.27 p.m.

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