



Leicester
City Council

At a meeting of the LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL held at the Town Hall at FIVE O'CLOCK in the afternoon on Thursday, 14 NOVEMBER 2019 duly convened for the business hereunder mentioned.

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BUSINESS

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1. LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 3rd October 2019 are available to view at:

<http://www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk:8071/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=81&MId=9385&Ver=4>

Copies are also available from Democratic Support on 0116 454 6350 / committees@leicester.gov.uk

4. STATEMENTS BY THE CITY MAYOR / EXECUTIVE

5. PETITIONS

- Presented by Members of the Public
- Presented by Councillors

6. QUESTIONS

- From Members of the Public
- From Councillors

7. MATTERS RESERVED TO FULL COUNCIL

7a Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations

7b Increasing the Supply of Affordable Housing – Addition of £70m to the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme

8. REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

8a Bi-Annual Report of Standards Committee: July 2017 – June 2019 – Analysis of Cases Referred

9 **EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEES**

To note any changes to the Executive. To vary the composition and fill any vacancies of any Committee of Council.

10. **NOTICES OF MOTION**

11. **ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

Fire & Emergency Evacuation Procedure

- The Council Chamber Fire Exits are the two entrances either side of the top bench or under the balcony in the far left corner of the room.
- In the event of an emergency alarm sounding make your way to Town Hall Square and assemble on the far side of the fountain.
- Anyone who is unable to evacuate using stairs should speak to any of the Town Hall staff at the beginning of the meeting who will offer advice on evacuation arrangements.
- From the public gallery, exit via the way you came in, or via the Chamber as directed by Town Hall staff.

Filming and Recording the Meeting

The Council is committed to transparency and supports efforts to record and share reports of proceedings of public meetings through a variety of means, including social media. In accordance with government regulations and the Council's policy, persons and press attending any meeting of the Council open to the public (except Licensing Sub Committees and where the public have been formally excluded) are allowed to record and/or report all or part of that meeting. Details of the Council's policy are available at www.leicester.gov.uk or from Democratic Support.

If you intend to film or make an audio recording of a meeting you are asked to notify the relevant Democratic Support Officer in advance of the meeting to ensure that participants can be notified in advance and consideration given to practicalities such as allocating appropriate space in the public gallery etc.

The aim of the Regulations and of the Council's policy is to encourage public interest and engagement so in recording or reporting on proceedings members of the public are asked:

- ✓ to respect the right of others to view and hear debates without interruption;
- ✓ to ensure that the sound on any device is fully muted and intrusive lighting avoided;
- ✓ where filming, to only focus on those people actively participating in the meeting;
- ✓ where filming, to (via the Chair of the meeting) ensure that those present are aware that they may be filmed and respect any requests to not be filmed.

PRESENT:

ANNETTE BYRNE, LORD MAYOR
CHAIRMAN

SIR PETER SOULSBY – CITY MAYOR

Abbey Ward

MANJIT KAUR SAINI

Aylestone Ward

ADAM CLARKE
NIGEL CARL PORTER

Beaumont Leys Ward

HEMANT RAE BHATIA
VI DEMPSTER
PAUL THOMAS WESTLEY

Belgrave Ward

PADMINI CHAMUND
NITA SOLANKI
MAHENDRA VALAND

Braunstone Park and Rowley Fields

SUE BARTON
ELAINE HALFORD
KULWINDER SINGH JOHAL

Castle Ward

PATRICK JOSEPH KITTERICK
DANNY MYERS

Evington Ward

DEEPAK BAJAJ
RATILAL BHAGWAN GOVIND
SUE HUNTER

Eyres Monsell Ward

ELAINE PANTLING

North Evington Ward

LUIS FONSECA
RASHMIKANT JOSHI
JEAN KHOTE

Rushey Mead Ward

PIARA SINGH CLAIR
RITA PATEL
ROSS WILLMOTT

Saffron Ward

ELLY CUTKELVIN
WILLIAM SHELTON

Spinney Hills Ward

MISBAH BATOOL

Stoneygate Ward

KIRK MASTER
SHARMEN RAHMAN
AMINUR THALUKDAR

Thurncourt Ward

TERESA ALDRED
STEPHAN GEE

Troon Ward

DIANE CANK
ASHIEDU JOEL

Westcotes Ward

JACKY NANGREAVE
SARAH RUSSELL

Fosse Ward

SUE WADDINGTON

Humberstone and Hamilton Ward

RUMA ALI
GURINDER SINGH SANDHU

Knighton Ward

MELISSA MARCH
DR LYNN MOORE
GEOFF WHITTLE

Western Ward

LINDSAY BROADWELL
GEORGE COLE
GARY O'DONNELL

Wycliffe Ward

MOHAMMED DAWOOD

32. LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord Mayor made no announcements.

33. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Lord Mayor invited Members to declare any interests they might have in the business on the agenda.

No declarations were made.

34. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded by Deputy Lord Mayor and carried:

That the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 3rd October 2019, copies having been circulated to each Member of the Council, be taken as read and that each be approved as a correct record.

35. STATEMENTS BY THE CITY MAYOR/EXECUTIVE

The following statement was made:

Councillor Clarke, Deputy City Mayor, Environment and Transportation, informed Council about developments in relation to the Council's response to the climate emergency. He noted that work in this area was a political priority and dealing with it would require prompt action to be taken and may involve changes to the way people live and work. It could however also have positive developments in terms of economic development and job creation. A programme of events as part of the Climate Emergency conversation was being undertaken, including online consultation, a discussion forum, a climate assembly, a school's climate assembly and a range of other events and discussions. He stressed that it was important for people to have their say on this vital issue.

36. PETITIONS

Petitions from members of the public

There were no petitions received from members of the public.

Petitions from Councillors

There were no petitions received from Councillors.

37. QUESTIONS

Questions from Members of the Public

There were no questions from members of the public.

Questions from Councillors

The following questions were asked by Councillors and details of who responded are also included below. The full details of questions and the responses can be viewed on the webcast of the meeting on the Council's website at:

https://leicester.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/454048

We maintain a comprehensive library of webcast Council meetings. The webcast for this meeting will remain on the live website until 14th November 2020, and after this date can be requested from the Democratic Support Team by contacting (0116) 454 6350 or at committees@leicester.gov.uk.

For your convenience, links to each question and response are embedded after each question below.

1. Councillor Waddington: -

"November is Islamophobia Awareness month. This is important because there has been a considerable increase in reports to the Leicestershire Police of hate crimes, including those against Muslims, in the last year.

In June 2018 this Council unanimously passed a motion on hate crime, which specifically mentioned Islamophobia, and which called for the Council to produce an action plan to combat hate crime.

Can the City Mayor please tell me what progress has been made in producing this action plan and when it will be brought to this Council for discussion and consideration?"

Deputy City Mayor, Councillor Clair replied.

[Link to webcast of question 1](#)

The Lord Mayor agreed to take the following 2 questions out of order.

2. Councillor Waddington: -

"Bristol City Council has made history by proposing to ban all diesel vehicles from the City centre. Could Leicester City Council do the same and if so when will this be considered?"

Deputy City Mayor Councillor Clarke replied.

[Link to webcast of question 2](#)

8. Councillor O'Donnell:-

"Leicester City have had their boxing day fixture delayed kick off to 8.00 PM. This presents an enormous logistical challenge as public transport will be very limited. Would it be possible to work with the club to perhaps looking at utilising our park and ride facilities (funded by the club) and have buses taking people in and out of the city to cut down on traffic and dangerous and illegal parking?"

Deputy City Mayor Councillor Clarke replied.

[Link to webcast of question 8](#)

17. Councillor Dawood:-

“Could the Cabinet lead for recycling explain the reduction in Leicester City recycling which is below the national average?”

Deputy City Mayor Councillor Clarke replied.

[Link to webcast of question 17](#)

3. Councillor Cole: -

“What is the wage disparity between White Teachers and Black Ethnic Minority Teachers in Leicester City Maintained schools?”

Assistant City Mayor Councillor Cutkelvin replied.

[Link to webcast of question 3](#)

4. Councillor Cole: -

“What percentage of the Head Teachers in the Leicester City Maintained schools are from Black and Ethnic Minority backgrounds?”

Assistant City Mayor Councillor Cutkelvin replied.

[Link to webcast to question 4](#)

5. Councillor Cole: -

“What percentage of the school Governors are from Black and Ethnic Minority backgrounds?”

Assistant City Mayor Councillor Cutkelvin replied.

[Link to webcast of question 5](#)

6. Councillor O'Donnell:-

“There are some questions being raised about the new free school planned for the Fosse Road/Groby Road site being detrimental to other secondary schools in the area. Currently there are six schools plus plans for a new academy all within 2.2 miles of the new school. The fear is that the free school will be selective and take talented children away from schools that have fought and worked so hard to improve. Is there a thing that we can do as an authority to minimise the potential impact?”

[Link to webcast of question 6](#)

Assistant City Mayor Councillor Cutkelvin replied.

7. Councillor O'Donnell:-

“A constituent contacted me to say that on the 9th October she spent 6 hours cumulatively on hold for advice from CAB incurring costs to do so, on Thursday 10th she did get through after 10 minutes but felt compelled to raise her experience with the city council? What can be done to improve the response time?”

Assistant City Mayor Councillor Master replied.

[Link to webcast of question 7](#)

9. Councillor Riyait:-

“This year Sikhs across Leicester and the world are celebrating 550 years of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji's Prakash (Birth), who founded the Sikh religion. I wanted to take this opportunity to let the City Council recognise this major event in the lives of not only Sikhs but many others who have been touched by Guru Nanak's teachings and beliefs. Now more than ever we need to embrace each other as One Human Race, to fight for equality and protect mother earth as Guru Nanak taught. The City Council has always been a great supporter of the Sikh community in Leicester and I wanted to thank the City Mayor for his unwavering support of the contributions of Sikhs make to the City. Can I ask Council to recognise this important event?”

It is currently Islamic Awareness Month, what is the City Council doing to highlight issues such as Islamophobia, promoting positive Muslim role models and by working with other organisations supporting a better understanding of Islam?”

These questions weren't taken as Councillor Riyait was not in attendance at the meeting.

10. Councillor Cole:-

“What is the Assistant Mayor for Health doing to ensure parity of esteem and provision of resources for people with mental health problems in the City?”

[Link to webcast of question 10](#)

Assistant City Mayor Councillor Dempster replied.

11. Councillor Cole:-

“The Royal College of Psychiatrists have recently said that more mental health hospital beds are needed in England to prevent sending patients far from home. What is the situation locally?”

Assistant City Mayor Councillor Dempster replied.

[Link to webcast of question 11](#)

12. Councillor Willmott:-

“At Housing Scrutiny I drew the attention of the Assistant Mayor for Housing to the outstanding success of Norwich City Council’s Goldsmith Street Council housing development which has been built to eco-friendly Passivhaus standards - ultra-low energy buildings which need little fuel for heating or cooling. In awarding the development the Stirling Prize, the judges said: "This is proper social housing, delivered by an ambitious and thoughtful council. These desirable, spacious, low-energy properties should be the norm for all council housing”.

The Assistant Mayor helpfully agreed to look at how we in Leicester could achieve the same standard. Can she now confirm that the new homes we are planning to build will be of the same standard in quality and sustainability?”

Assistant City Mayor Councillor Cutkelvin replied.

[Link to webcast of question 12](#)

13. Councillor Rae Bhatia:-

“Given the recent announcement by City Mayor of massive investment in building new houses can I ask the Assistant Mayor responsible for Housing to advise how many of these are targeted to be built in Beaumont Leys? Thank you.”

Assistant City Mayor Councillor Cutkelvin replied.

[Link to webcast of question 13](#)

14. Councillor Kitterick:-

"What discussions have taken place between the City Council and University Hospitals Leicester about the future ownership and management of the NHS properties on Hospital Close, Leicester?"

City Mayor replied.

[Link to webcast of question 14](#)

15. Councillor Batool:-

“With reference to the article in the Leicester Mercury on Wednesday 6th November in relation to expenditure in schools. Could the Assistant Mayor responsible, advise if additional funds can be allocated to relieve the pressures on the school and as LEA comment on the needs to provide well maintained environments that encourages positive learning?”

Assistant City Mayor Councillor Cutkelvin replied.

[Link to webcast of question 15](#)

16. Councillor Batool:-

“We were informed in last full council meeting that fifteen thousand new citizenship applications have been submitted from Leicester. We are proud that these EU citizens decided to settle in this city and make it their new home. Do we have certain strategy/plan for their engagement and integration?”

City Mayor replied.

[Link to webcast of question 16](#)

18. Councillor Dawood:-

“According to a recent survey conducted by Young Minds, has highlighted a sharp increase in mental health problems. Could the portfolio lead advise as to how long a young person has to wait before an initial assessment is undertaken by the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services?”

Assistant City Mayor Councillor Dempster replied.

[Link to webcast of question 18](#)

19. Councillor Dawood:-

“Could the portfolio lead for digital inclusion advise as to how we intend to increase access for citizens that are disabled or over 65 years of age, as we deliver our Digital transformation programme?”

Assistant City Mayor Councillor Myers replied.

[Link to the webcast of question 19](#)

20. Councillor Moore:-

“Will the Council require all public firework displays within Local Authority boundaries to be advertised in advance, therefore allowing residents to take precautions for their animals and vulnerable people; actively promote a public awareness campaign about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people, and provide advice about precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks; and also encourage local suppliers of fireworks to stock ‘quieter’ fireworks for public displays.”

Deputy City Mayor Councillor Clair replied.

[Link to webcast of question 20](#)

21. Councillor Porter:-

“What measures have been put in place so that the council do not continue to lose significant amounts of taxpayers money on badly organised events at De Montfort Hall?”

City Mayor to replied.

[Link to webcast of question 21](#)

22. Councillor Porter:-

“What does the council bus lane policy say at X on page 6?”

City Mayor replied.

[Link to webcast of question 22](#)

23. Councillor Porter:-

“Do any current members of the council own property outside of Leicester and if so how many properties is that in total?”

City Mayor replied.

[Link to webcast of question 23](#)

24. Councillor Porter:-

“What will be the average building costs per square metre of the proposed new council houses?”

Assistant City Mayor Councillor Cutkelvin replied.

[Link to webcast of question 24](#)

25. Councillor Porter:-

“How many square metres of office space are currently vacant in Leicester?”

City Mayor replied.

[Link to webcast of question 25](#)

26. Councillor Porter:-

“Do any current members of the council own more than one property in Leicester and if so how many properties is that in total?”

City Mayor replied.

[Link to webcast of question 26](#)

MATTERS RESERVED TO COUNCIL

38. REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS, POLLING PLACES AND POLLING STATIONS

Moved by Councillor Cank, seconded by Council Joel and carried:

That Council;

- a) approves the Scheme of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations for the City of Leicester as detailed at Appendix A of the report; to be formally adopted on 1 February 2020 when a revised electoral register will be published; and
- b) delegates to the (Acting) Returning Officer any decision to designate an

alternative polling place if a building becomes unavailable for any reason before an election, subject to appropriate consultation with relevant local stakeholders.

39. INCREASING THE SUPPLY OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING - ADDITION OF £70M TO THE HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Moved by the City Mayor, seconded by Assistant City Mayor Councillor Cutkelvin, and carried:

That Council;

- a) approves the addition of £70m to the HRA Capital Programme for the delivery of new homes as described in the report;
- b) approves the categorisation of expenditure on such Affordable Housing as an “immediate start” enabling the Director of Housing to commit expenditure, subject only to the proviso that where spend on an individual site (acquisition of land/buildings and/or construction) exceeds £1m then further formal approval from the City Mayor will be required; and
- c) notes that to give effect to the qualification outlined in paragraph 2 above, the City Mayor will amend his Scheme of Delegation so that expenditure on such Affordable Housing will qualify as a “reserved matter” above £1m.

REPORT OF MONITORING OFFICER

40. BI-ANNUAL REPORT OF STANDARDS COMMITTEE JULY 2017 - JUNE 2019 - ANALYSIS OF CASES REFERRED

Moved by Councillor Dr. Barton, seconded by Councillor Shelton and carried:

that the report be noted.

41. EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEES

There was no Executive or committees business.

42. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

There being no urgent business, the Lord Mayor declared the meeting closed at 7.17pm.