

**Department of Legal and
Democratic Services**

Members of Council

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Date: 17 March 2014

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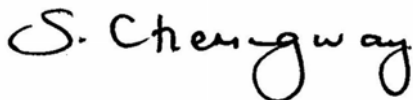
Dear Councillor

COUNCIL MEETING – 25 MARCH 2014

You are requested to attend a meeting of the Council to be held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Bradford, on Tuesday, 25 March 2014 at 1600.

The agenda for the meeting is set out overleaf.

Yours sincerely



City Solicitor

Notes:

- ◆ This agenda can be made available in Braille, large print or tape format.
- ◆ The taking of photographs and video or sound recording of the meeting, may only take place with the permission of a majority of elected members of the Committee at the meeting.



The Council's Fire Bell and Evacuation Procedure requires people to leave the building in an orderly fashion by the nearest exit, should the fire alarm sound. No one will be allowed to stay or return until the building has been checked.

Members are reminded that under the Members' Code of Conduct, they must register within 28 days any changes to their financial and other interests and notify the Monitoring Officer of any gift or hospitality received.

AGENDA

A. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

(Members Code of Conduct - Part 4A of Constitution)

To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from members on matters to be considered at the meeting. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest.

An interest must also be disclosed in the meeting when it only becomes apparent to the member during the meeting.

Notes:

- (1) Members may remain in the meeting and take part fully in discussion and voting unless the interest is a disclosable pecuniary interest or an interest which the Member feels would call into question their compliance with the wider principles set out in the Code of Conduct. Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to the Member concerned or their spouse/partner.*
- (2) Members in arrears of Council Tax by more than two months must not vote in decisions on, or which might affect, budget calculations, and must disclose at the meeting that this restriction applies to them. A failure to comply with these requirements is a criminal offence under section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.*
- (3) Members are also welcome to disclose interests which are not disclosable pecuniary interests but which they consider should be made in the interest of clarity.*
- (4) Officers must disclose interests in accordance with Council Standing Order 44.*

2. MINUTES

Recommended -

That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 February 2014 be signed as a correct record (previously circulated).

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

4. **WRITTEN ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LORD MAYOR**
(Standing Order 4)

(To be circulated before the meeting).

5. **INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS**
(Access to Information Procedure Rules – Part 3B of the Constitution)

Reports and background papers for agenda items may be inspected by contacting the person shown after each agenda item. Certain reports and background papers may be restricted.

Any request to remove the restriction on a report or background paper should be made to the relevant Director or Head of Service whose name is shown on the front page of the report.

If that request is refused, there is a right of appeal to this meeting.

Please contact the officer shown below in advance of the meeting if you wish to appeal.

(Adrian Tumber - 01274 432435)

B. BUSINESS ITEMS

6. **PETITIONS** (Standing Order 11) **Ward**

To consider up to five requests for the Council to receive petitions in accordance with Standing Orders.

- (i) Objection to proposal to discontinue free transport to new pupils attending **All wards** faith schools

If any further requests are received, in writing, by mid-day three working days before the meeting (Thursday) details will be circulated.

(Palbinder Sandhu- 01274 432269)

7. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** (Standing Order 13)

There are no public questions.

(Palbinder Sandhu- 01274 432269)

8. **MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND JOINT COMMITTEES**
(Standing Order 4)

Recommended –

- (1) **That Councillor Thirkill replace Councillor Akhtar on the Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee.**

- (2) That Councillor Abid Hussain replace Councillor Akhtar on the Keighley Area Committee and Councillor Akhtar be an alternate.
- (3) That Councillor Lal replace Councillor Shabir Hussain on the Regulatory and Appeals Committee and Councillor Shabir Hussain be an alternate.

To consider any further motions (i) to appoint members to a Committee or a Joint Committee; or (ii) to appoint Chairs or Deputy Chairs of Committees (excluding Area Committees).

9. MEMBER QUESTION TIME (Standing Order 12)

To deal with supplementary questions arising from the attached questions of which written notice has been given.

Notes:

- (i) *Answers to written questions shall be circulated at the commencement of the meeting.*
- (ii) *The Lord Mayor will have regard to the list of questions and the political composition of the Council in calling on Members to put their supplementary question to the Leader of Council and Portfolio Holders.*
- (iii) *A period of up to 30 minutes shall be available for supplementary questions to Members of the Executive.*

10. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEES (Standing Order 15)

10A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE – ‘A PLACE TO CALL HOME’: HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY FOR BRADFORD DISTRICT 2014 – 2019

At the meeting of the Executive on 11 March 2014 the submitted Strategic Director Regeneration and Culture submitted **Executive Document “BO” (Appendix 1) (Appendix 2)** outlining the development of a refreshed Housing and Homelessness Strategy for the district. The strategy sets out the vision, priorities and approach for meeting the housing needs of the residents of the district, and for tackling and preventing homelessness. The refreshed strategy has been drafted as a high-level framework document, to influence the Council and partners’ policies and delivery programmes.

Recommended -

That ‘A place to call home: Housing and Homelessness Strategy for Bradford District 2014 – 2019’ be approved.

(Yusuf Karolia/Sarah Holmes - 01274 434362/432591)

10B RECOMMENDATION FROM THE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT, MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION STRATEGY AND ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2013/14

At the meeting of the Governance and Audit Committee on 7 March 2014 the Director of Finance submitted Governance and Audit Committee Document “AJ” containing the Treasury Strategy for the three financial years commencing 2013/14 and the Annual Investment Strategy. The Committee amended the policy and referred the document to Council for adoption (**Document “Q”**).

Recommended -

That the Treasury Management Policy Statement, Minimum Revenue Provision Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy 2013/14 be adopted.

(David Willis - 01274 432361)

10C To consider any further recommendations (if any) arising from meetings of the Executive and Committees held after the publication of this agenda and prior to the Council meeting.

11. NOTICES OF MOTION (Standing Order 17)

To consider the attached motions of which notice has been given.

12. PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2014/15

The Localism Act 2011 introduced a requirement for Local Authorities to produce and publish a Pay Policy Statement for each financial year. The Pay Policy Statement for 2014/15 must be approved by full Council before publication and is attached to **Document “N”**.

Recommended –

That the Pay Policy Statement for the financial year 2014/15, as set out at Appendix 1 to Document “N”, be approved.

(Deb Maclean - 01274 437657)

13. JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE REVIEW

The report of the City Solicitor (**Document “O”**) (**Appendix 1**) seeks approval from Council for the proposal that this authority supports and participates in a joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Yorkshire and the Humber) in relation to the new Congenital Heart Disease Review.

Recommended –

- (1) Council reconfirms its support for the establishment of a Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Yorkshire and the Humber) in relation to NHS England’s new review on Congenital Heart Disease services.**
- (2) That Council delegates relevant functions, as set out in Appendix 1, that shall be exercisable by the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Yorkshire**

and the Humber), subject to the terms and conditions set out in the said terms of reference.

- (3) That Council asks the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to nominate a member from within its membership to sit on the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Yorkshire and the Humber) in relation to the new review of Congenital Heart Disease services and, upon nomination, agrees to appoint such members to the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Yorkshire and the Humber).

(Suzan Hemingway – 01274 432496)

COUNCIL

25 MARCH 2014

MEMBER QUESTION TIME

Questions submitted in accordance with Standing Order 12

QUESTIONS TO MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

1. **Councillor Thirkill**

Can the Portfolio Holder outline the progress of the Industrial Centres of Excellence Programme?

2. **Councillor L'Amie**

What action is proposed to allow a higher proportion of the district's parents to obtain their first choice of school for their child?

3. **Councillor Sunderland**

Does the Leader of Council agree that since the private rented sector provides homes to almost a fifth of households in Bradford MDC that the time has come to introduce a formal scheme to register and quality assure the District's Private Sector Landlords?

4. **Councillor Karmani**

Will the Education Portfolio Holder explore the need to build a new three form primary school in the BD5 area given the increased need for school places in the next 10 years and what are the plans to increase school places in the city area?

5. **Councillor Engel**

Does the Leader support the Local Government Association's calls for the Government to re-think its proposal to cut Local Welfare funding from 2015?

6. **Councillor Jabar**

How is the Council intending to deal with concerns from parents who have not been allocated any of the schools for which they expressed a preference?

7. **Councillor Ellis**

Given that the Waste (England & Wales) Regulations 2011, as amended by the Waste (England & Wales) (Amendment) Regulations of 2012 and commonly known as TEEP, takes effect from the 1st January 2015, can the Leader of the Council inform us of what steps are being taken by this council to fulfil its legal obligations?

8. **Councillor Swallow**

Can the Portfolio Holder outline what steps will be taken to share the practice identified in recent Children's Centre Ofsted Reports?

9. **Councillor Lynne Smith**

Can the Portfolio Holder for Social Care and Health tell us how much the Council has set aside in its budgets since 2010 to meet the costs associated with the increasing demand for social care arising from the increasing numbers of older and disabled people. Can he also indicate whether he has any concerns about the potential financial implications for the Council of the forthcoming Care Bill?

10. **Councillor Whiteley**

As the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Planning, Nick Boles MP has announced that local authorities must consider the aging population when granting planning permissions and that every local authority must ensure sufficient bungalows, flats and sheltered accommodation to meet the growing demand for homes for older people, can the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Planning and Transport advise how Bradford is going to encourage this to happen?

11. **Councillor Jabar**

When did the Council become aware of the dumping of building waste at the former Rentokil site on Northfield Road, what action has it taken about it and what steps can now be taken to rectify the situation?

12. **Councillor Middleton**

Question to Cllr V Slater Portfolio Holder for Transport

Why is it now taking Bradford Council over four weeks to fix broken Street Lights reported to it through Council Contact?

13. **Councillor Greenwood**

How is the Council dealing with the new rules enabling Councils to increase the recovery costs for Council Tax arrears?

14. **Councillor Heseltine**

Can the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Sport advise colleagues, in the Scores on the Doors Food Hygiene scheme, of the 27 zero rated (urgent improvement needed) and the 271 one rated (major improvement needed) establishments as of 10 March 2014, how long has each establishment languished at this rating?

15. **Councillor Dodds**

Can the Portfolio Holder advise on steps being taken to promote apprenticeships and ensure young people are given the advice they need to make decisions?

16. **Councillor Collector**

Will the Leader commit and set a deadline for developing a proper strategy to deal with the growing night time economy on Great Horton Road?

17. **Councillor Smithies**

Can the Leader comment on the news that Leeds General Infirmary will continue to be a centre for Children's Heart Surgery?

18. Councillor Miller

Can the Leader of the Council advise members of when a dedicated council senior officer team, tasked with preparing and being responsible for the visit of the Tour De France was formed and how advanced it is with the necessary preparations?

19. Councillor Ferriby

Can the Portfolio holder advise what progress has been made to address the concerns about cuts to FE and 6th form funding for 18-19 year olds?

20. Councillor Arshad Hussain

How much does the Council spend on Traffic Regulation Orders every year and what proportion of that goes on advertising? Would it be possible to save money by using alternative methods of communication for example, via the Council's web site?

21. Councillor Sunderland

How many of the 26,000 low income residents paying Council Tax for the first time in Bradford MDC have been sent: a) a first reminder notice, b) a second reminder notice, c) a summons from the Magistrates Court and d) a liability order?

22. Councillor L'Amie

What level of support is being given to schools to allow them to retrain or if necessary dismiss under performing teachers and support staff?

23. Councillor Jabar

Could the Portfolio Holder please update us on what the Council is doing to tackle the problem of dog fouling and what action has been taken against people for failing to clean up after their pets this year? In particular, how many penalty notices were issued this year in Great Horton Ward compared to the previous year?

24. Councillor Wainwright

What impact will the decision to cease funding for GCSE retake courses [other than for English and Maths] have on Bradford Learners?

25. Councillor Whiteley

Can the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Planning and Transport inform colleagues of what actions the council is taking or planning to take, to access the government grants available to help the council fund smaller accommodation for people who currently under occupy social housing units in the district?

26. Councillor Jabar

Could the Portfolio Holder for CYPS please update us on the Kings Science Academy and the role of the local authority has compared to previously?

27. Councillor Heseltine

Can the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Sport advise colleagues what is the subsidy cost per person per visit at all of our leisure, recreation and sporting facilities, by facility?

28. Councillor Middleton

Question to Cllr Berry, Portfolio Holder Children & Young People's Services

What has happened to the School Crossing Patrol that used to assist people at the junction of, Dudley Hill Road and Wellington Road?

29. Councillor Collector

What follow up action has been done on the Islamophobia motion passed at Full Council last year?

30. Councillor Cooke

Can the Leader of the Council inform colleagues of when the Jacob's Well Car Park will actually have an access control system for Jacob's Well Car Park that actually works?

31. Councillor Whiteley

In light of the findings of the latest SOCITM Better Connected review, which looks at how easy it is to find information and perform tasks on the Council's website, can the Leader of the Council advise why the Council does not leave its annual accounts permanently on the website, to provide continuous transparency, allowing the ready access to and scrutiny of these?

32. Councillor Middleton

Question to Cllr A Thornton, Portfolio Holder Environment & Sustainability

Does Bradford MDC have any plans to follow other West Yorkshire Councils and stop the kerbside collection in domestic re-cycling bins of glass jars and bottles?

33. Councillor Collector

Has there been an increase in flytipping following the introduction of the charge to collect bulky items? Also, has the system of identification/pass at waste disposal sites reduced those from other districts coming to Bradford?

34. Councillor Faisal Khan

What support mechanisms does the LEA provide for schools who are identified as priority one and specifically what support is provided to governing bodies?

COUNCIL

25 MARCH 2014

NOTICES OF MOTION

1. NARROWING THE GAP

To be moved by Councillor Miller
Seconded by Councillor Cooke

This Council recognises and welcomes the fact that despite the recent period of acute financial difficulty, the government has managed to direct the limited resources remaining available when it took office, to those most in need, specifically vulnerable children.

In particular, the Council welcomes:-

- the year on year increase of the Pupil Premium from £450 per pupil per year in 2011/12 to £1,900 per pupil per year from 1 April 2014, provided to increase the educational attainment levels of disadvantaged or vulnerable pupils, including children in care and young people responsible for providing care to others
- the additional £50m provided to councils, with £600,000 specifically for Bradford MDC, to allow the improvement of our adoption services, cementing our position within the top 25% of councils for adoption times and hopefully, if utilised wisely, allowing the council to achieve and surpass the government's target average time period for adoptions

The Council resolves to request that the Chief Executive write to the Secretary of State for Education welcoming these initiatives and asking what other measures will be introduced to benefit the children and young people of Bradford District.

2. COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT FOR DISABLED PEOPLE

To be moved by Councillor Swallow
Seconded by Councillor Green

This Council notes:

- 1) The additional financial difficulties brought to some vulnerable disabled people as a result of the significant cuts in Government funding to assist people with paying Council Tax and that at a minimum a further £2M would be needed to ensure all eligible disabled people in the District are able to receive 100% assistance with their Council Tax.
- 2) That the process for appealing against decisions to cease payment of Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance can be lengthy, lasting up to 18 months in some cases.
- 3) That 80% of appeals against decisions to remove benefits payments are won but many appellants suffer considerable anxiety and stress during the intervening period and that this can be heightened by worry about having to pay Council Tax at a time when they effectively are without income.

- 4) That the Council's current policy where people are unable to pay Council Tax is to work with them on an individual basis and, where appropriate, to put Council Tax collection activity on hold pending the outcome of their appeal.

The Council resolves to:

- 1) Call on the Government to make the additional funding required available within Bradford's Council Tax support grant to ensure that all eligible disabled people are able to receive 100% assistance with their Council Tax.
- 2) Confirm its policy of taking individual circumstances into account before proceeding with action against Council Tax payers and ensuring Council Staff are trained in obtaining the relevant information to assess a person's ability to pay and make affordable arrangements in line with their circumstances. This includes putting Council Tax Collection activity on hold for a reasonable period, pending the outcome of an appeal.
- 3) Ask the Director of Finance to ensure that the policy is communicated to all agencies working with affected client groups in order to encourage those people affected to contact the Council at the earliest possible opportunity.