

Public Document Pack



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Agenda Item 4 Lord Mayor's Announcements

CITY OF BRADFORD METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING OF COUNCIL – TUESDAY 12 DECEMBER 2023 ITEM 4 WRITTEN ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LORD MAYOR

DEATH OF FORMER CORONER ROGER LLEWELLYN WHITTAKER, DL

It is my sad duty to report the death of Roger Llewellyn Whittaker, DL, which occurred on 09 November 2023, at Airedale Hospital.

Roger retired as HM Coroner (West Yorkshire West) in 2011, having served Bradford, Calderdale and Huddersfield diligently for 15 years, during which time he estimated that he had presided over 7,500 inquests. Before his appointment to the coronial service in 1994, Roger was a solicitor in Keighley.

He was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant in 2003 and carried out that role with real aplomb, being well-remembered for his warmth and courtesy, a sense of old world charm and his distinctive, dapper dress sense.

He was married to Elizabeth and they had four children. I have written to his widow and family to express our sorrow in their loss and our gratitude for Roger's grace, generosity of spirit and his dedicated service to our local communities.

DEATH OF FORMER COUNCILLOR MICHAEL JOHNSON

I am saddened to also report to Council the death of former Councillor Michael Johnson, who died on 20 November 2023.

Michael was elected for the Tong Ward in 1999, stepping down in 2021. During those many years he served his constituents with an unswerving commitment and made a great contribution to the work of this Council, particularly in the areas of regeneration, the environment, housing and education. Michael was a true community champion and a man of principle. He will be missed by many.

I have written to his family to extend both our condolences on his death and to place on record our thanks for his more than two decades of work for this Council.

ANNUAL CITY CAROL SERVICE

The ever-popular annual City Carol Service will take place on Monday 18 December 2023 at 6:00pm in Bradford Cathedral.

This is a wonderful, festive gathering in splendid surroundings, with the service led by the organ and choir of Bradford Cathedral and the City of Bradford Brass Band.

I understand that the service is now fully-booked and I do hope that all those attending will greatly enjoy this very special evening in the life of the district.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

I would like to extend warm greetings of the season to all Members and Officers of the Council. I wish you a Christmas filled with comfort, joy and hope and, ahead of us, a happy and healthy New Year.

I am enormously grateful for the support given by elected Members and Officers to the Lord Mayor's Appeal during our first six months.

Might I also remind you that if Father Christmas' deliveries this year fail in any way to live up to your expectations, my Lord Mayor's Appeal office will be more than happy to 'recycle' your unwanted items by way of charity tombolas, raffles and auctions in the New Year. Our Appeal Co-ordinator, Emma Walker in Room 215, City Hall, will be delighted to receive any items which may be surplus to your requirements.

The money raised is for the Bradford Cinderella Club, a charity established in the City in 1890 and which provides support and arranges treats for underprivileged children right across our district. It is a wonderful and greatly worthwhile cause and one which I hope I can rely on you to also support, wherever you can, into the New Year.

I hope you all thoroughly enjoy the Christmas holidays safely with your nearest and dearest.

Distribution:

Lord Mayor (Cllr Gerry Barker)

Chief Executive (Dr Lorraine O'Donnell)

Director of Legal and Governance (Asif Ibrahim)

Head of Legal and Deputy Monitoring Officer (Jason Field)

Head of Governance and Deputy Monitoring Officer (Mandy Hill)

Acting Civic Affairs Manager (Farzana Mughal)

Acting Governance, Scrutiny & Members' Support Manager (Fatima Butt)

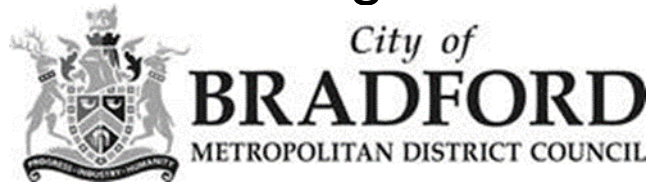
Principal Executive Officer, Chief Executive's Office (Nigel Smith)

PA to the Leader of Council (Victoria Spratt)

Policy Research Officer, Bradford Labour Group (Simon O'Hare)

G:\Democratic Services\Civic Affairs\2023-2024 Cllr Gerry Barker\Miscellaneous\Council meeting - dates, pre-meetings and announcements\Announcements\12 December 2023\LM Announcements - 12.12.23 - draft 2.docx

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Agenda Item 9 – Report by the Leader of the Council Leaders Report December 2023

Further progress on new Bradford station and connectivity

I was really pleased to welcome Huw Merriman, the Rail Minister to Bradford a few weeks ago when he announced that Government was giving the council the £400,000 promised as part of the West Yorkshire devolution deal to be able to progress our master planning for the new station. Over the next year the Southern Gateway Board chaired by Nigel Foster will develop the business case with the Department for Transport so that a decision can be made on the location for the station within the next year.

At the same time progress is being made on Mass Transit. Our ambition is that a tram will then connect the two stations of Forster Square and the new Bradford mainline station before going on to connect to Leeds as well.

It's the transport system that Bradford should have had 100 years ago and we're pleased that the current plans demonstrate that achieving better connectivity is now more within our reach than ever before.

Bus franchising

The West Yorkshire Combined Authority is currently out to consultation on bus franchising. The deadline for contributions is in the next 4 weeks. This will then be analysed and will be read by the West Yorkshire Mayor who will have to make a decision in March next year about which way to go. Please look at the consultation and engage with it.

Bus franchising in itself is not a panacea, but it does provide more public control over the routes and ticketing so that the transport system in West Yorkshire can be more integrated. We all know that to get a better bus service, we need to have proper sustained funding of public transport. It's the bedrock of our economy and enables people to lead socially active and economically successful lives.

Local Government Boundary Review

The Local Government Boundary Review has now published its own plans for new warding patterns for the district. This is purely an exercise internally within the Bradford district, it happens about once every 20 years to make sure that the number

of electors in each ward are broadly similar in number. The current consultation now runs until 5th February. The final ward plan will be ready in spring next year before implementation at the local elections in 2026.

Business Improvement District successes in the district

I'm delighted that in the last few months we've seen successful ballots of businesses for BIDs. As well as the ongoing Ilkley BID, the two other district BIDs, Keighley and Bradford, have both had recent ballots which have resulted in a continuation of these respective BIDs for the next 5 years. This is very exciting and comes at a great time to complement the City of Culture activities in 2025. BIDs are entirely business run and businesses set the priorities for the spend. Generally speaking, they spend money on things like additional events, animation and street wardens which are on top of the existing services provided by the Council and other partners. I congratulate both teams and look forward to working with them.

Keighley Towns Fund bid – successful after all!

We were delighted to secure an award for up to £19,814,140 for enhancing Keighley's engineering, manufacturing, and economic role in the region as part of the third round of the Fund. We have long championed Keighley's status as a leading manufacturer in Yorkshire & Humber, so it is great to see this bid getting the success it deserves.

150th anniversary of the Bradford Synagogue

I was pleased to attend the Chanukah service last weekend with the Lord Mayor on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the Synagogue being established in Bradford. It was a wonderful service where a Bradford resident, Marjorie Black was also given her BEM medal by the Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire, Ed Anderson. Our congratulations to the synagogue for 150 years of continuance worship in Bradford and to Marjorie who has given over 50 years of continuous service as a civilian member of staff in West Yorkshire Police force.



Agenda Item 10

COUNCIL

Tuesday 12 December 2023

MEMBER QUESTION TIME - PART 1

Questions submitted in accordance with Standing Order 12

1. Councillor Caroline Firth

Does the leader join me in welcoming the recent £19.8m “Levelling Up” funding for Keighley, and does she join me in praising the Bradford Council officers who put the bid together?

Response

It is good news that Keighley has received an offer of further funding through Round 3 of the Levelling Up Fund. The proposal was initially submitted as part of Round 2 in August 2022, but unfortunately was unsuccessful in that round. Due to the lapse of time since the bid was submitted, we are currently reviewing the contents of the bid to determine what is still deliverable in the period to March 26. We have been liaising with partners involved in the bid over the last few days and have been able to confirm to government that we intend to deliver the projects but we anticipate some changes to the proposals initially submitted due to the time lapse.

Finally, I absolutely join you in praising our officers who put the bid together. After Round 2 the MP attacked the Council claiming it was a poor quality bid so it is good the government have now acknowledged this was one of the highest quality bids from Round 2.

2. Councillor Andrew Loy

Would the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning & Transport please confirm how many streets there are in Ilkley Ward and how many will be within the new 20mph zone?

Response

Officers are working to calculate the precise number of streets in Ilkley ward. Previous figures provided were taken from <http://ilkley.streetmapof.co.uk/>, which states there are 636 streets in Ilkley identified by the red border. However, the street list has clearly included the wider LS29 locality and not the extent of the red border as shown on the map. The information was provided in good faith and officers will provide the actual number of streets in the Ilkley ward when it is available. There are 257 streets in the Ilkley 20mph Zone.

3. Councillor Matt Edwards

Does the Leader of Council agree that changes of opening hours to important services like Household Waste Centres should be communicated to councillors before they are made public?

Response

Yes. Officers have advised me that because this was a decision that needed speedy implementation there was a mix up with the communications which they regret.

4. Councillor Brendan Stubbs

In March we were told a “pre-let announcement would be made in June”, for One City Park, in October we were told an announcement would be made at the end of October. Can the Leader advise the Council if the final work has been completed, who is the first tenant and how many other tenants are awaiting final contracts?

Response

One City Park is the first commercial development in the city centre in 20 years and is crucial in providing high quality workspace to bring good quality jobs to the district. The final work on the building has finished and I’m pleased to say contracts have been entered into for an anchor tenant for One City Park. The timing of the announcement as to who it is, is in the gift of the tenant, not the council and we must respect their wishes not to make an announcement until they are ready to do so. The construction of the building has finished and there is firm interest from businesses in letting the rest of the space. The announcement of the first letting will support further marketing of the remaining space.

5. Councillor Sarfraz Nazir

Being awarded the City of Culture 2025 brought a lot of excitement and hope for the young people of Bradford, however with the news the former Chief Executive of Bradford Council, somebody who was responsible for failing the young people of the city not once but twice, having been appointed to a prominent position, can we be assured that we are not a city that rewards failure?

Response

The Bradford Culture Company is a separate legal entity to the Council. Appointments to the Bradford Culture Company are external appointments made by that body. The former Chief Executive of Bradford Council was instrumental in winning the bid for the City of Culture and her level of experience is sought after nationally. We are all very much looking forward to a brilliant year in 2025. The Culture Company are crafting an exciting

programme. What’s more, the district is already realising benefits and additional investment because of the designation.

6. Councillor Caroline Firth

I welcome the news that an Advanced Robotics and Engineering Institute in Keighley has been announced through the latest Levelling Up national competition. I understand that the intention is to use the Council's Stockbridge depot for this purpose. Can you reassure residents that this will not have a negative effect on the number of and types of services being delivered to local people?

Response

The Advanced Robotics and Engineering Institute will position Keighley as a national leader through provision of a state-of-the-art centre of excellence. The new building will accommodate undergraduate and postgraduate students to study robotics, advanced engineering, automation, artificial intelligence and computer science. The institute will benefit students at all levels of technical education, from secondary school age to PhD, by offering clear progression pathways in a familiar, state of the art centre of excellence.

At the time this was submitted it was proposed that this development would be situated on the Stockbridge site with a new depot provided on part of the site. The services that operated out of the site would remain the same as the redevelopment would maximise efficient use of the site. Given the length of time that has passed since the bid was submitted, we are currently reviewing the project and whether it will be delivered at Stockbridge or elsewhere in Keighley.

7. Councillor Mohsin Hussain

Do we have an update on the Keighley Health Hub - timescale for completion and when will the planning start?

Response

The Health & Wellbeing Centre in Keighley will be a fantastic addition to the town centre, providing high quality healthcare and consolidating 200 jobs into the town centre. Of course, the project was delayed by the best part of a year due to the opposition from the local MP, which delayed sign-off of the business plan from government. The project had to be mothballed until the business plan was signed, but now it is moving forward again.

The latest project timeline shows completion of the scheme by June 2027 mainly due to the need to update all of the supply chain quotes for carrying out the detailed design work and various site surveys. Planning for the scheme started after the Towns Fund bid was approved in June and has focused mainly on pre-planning applications, further exploration of commercial funding options and the preparation of an outline communications and involvement plan. Also, we are

ensuring that service provision from the development aligns with the clinical model that is emerging in relation to the new hospital at Airedale.

8. Councillor Mohsin Hussain

Following the attacks on Starbucks and McDonald's – what has been done to prevent further attacks?

Response

Such violence will not be tolerated. The Police are conducting an active investigation into the perpetrators. In order to monitor any community tensions a specific operation has been established at a West Yorkshire level and in Bradford district. We work across the system with the Police and other Local Authorities on a weekly basis to assess the level of risk and likelihood of activity in the region. We would encourage anyone with intelligence on this matter or any other potential intention to vandalise to contact the Police.

9. Councillor Ralph Berry

Section 17 of the Act places a general duty on all local authorities to 'safeguard and promote the welfare of children within their area who are in need'. Basically, a 'child in need' is a child who needs additional support from the local authority to meet their potential. I'd like to ask how many s17 Children Act payments have been made to Bradford Families in the last 6 months.

Response

There have been 2,599 Section 17 payments made in the last 6 months.

10. Councillor Julie Glentworth

As the new One City Park office building appears to be completed, can the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning & Transport, please update members on occupancy levels, the names of the organisations who have taken up leases and whether the building is exacerbating the problem of empty Grade 1 offices in the City Centre?

Response

Contracts have been entered into for an anchor tenant for One City Park. The timing of the announcement as to who it is, is in the gift of the tenant, not the council and we must respect their wishes not to make an announcement until they are ready to do so. The construction of the building has finished and the announcement of the first letting will support further marketing of the remaining space.

One City Park is the newest Grade A Office building in the City Centre and whilst the generic office market is oversupplied there is interest in it due to its prime location and quality – both of which are attractive to occupiers.

11. Councillor Nazam Azam

I'd like to thank my ward colleagues for their effective campaigning and the portfolio holder for his cooperation in getting the pelican crossing which will

improve safety on Horton Grange Road. Can the portfolio holder confirm the costings related to the replacement of the zebra to a pelican crossing?

Response

Thank you to City ward councillors for the input in developing the right scheme for this location. I'm pleased we were able to deliver this much-needed project using our Strategic Road Safety Pot, which was created for projects such as these where the budget exceeded the local Area Committee pot. The total scheme cost for the conversion of the zebra crossing to a Pelican crossing was carried out for £88,000. This budget includes expenditure on:

- Consultations
- Legal Processes/advertisements
- Civil engineering construction
- Signal installation
- Carriageway surfacing including road closures
- Signs and road markings
- Street lighting

12. Councillor Ian Parsons

Eccleshill Councillors have been working closely with Parking Services to reduce illegal parking in Eccleshill, particularly on Stony Lane which is near an accident hotspot. We have seen some positive results, but we need to see much more action. Would the Executive agree that it would be helpful if Councillors received feedback on the number of parking services staff active in our wards and also an update on the number of tickets issued, at appropriate intervals?

Response

We deploy Council Wardens across the district focusing on parking hotspots, schools, main gateways and where we have received complaints. Our admin recording systems are not configured in such a way to collect data for specific wards or neighbourhoods. The car registration number is the primary data collection method.

Mobile Council Wardens are tasked daily in the Bradford East area who focus on hotspot areas such as this. Quite often the number of Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) issued does not reflect the number of visits we make, the presence of

Wardens acts as a deterrent. We continue to respond to community concerns to improve road safety. We are happy to undertake some additional focused work in this area and share our findings based on community and Cllr requests.

13. Councillor Martin Love

Shipley ward councillors were naturally delighted to hear from officers that the tennis courts in Northcliffe Park were to be refurbished. We were less than happy to find out, via a rumour circulating among our residents, that the well-used free facility is now to be charged for. Can the portfolio holder please tell us what the charges to use the courts will be and why this information wasn't communicated to ward members when the original announcement was made?

Response

The Lawn Tennis Association approached the Council with an offer to fund refurbishment of tennis courts at 10 parks sites at no cost to the Council. A key element of the offer is to allow the courts to be used for extended coaching activity leading to wider participation levels beyond the immediate local tennis community and those already engaged in playing tennis to include a more diverse and inclusive audience. In order to allow a structured and effective approach to coaching provision, there is the need to manage access to some of the courts through a booking system and gate controls. The two of six, recently refurbished tennis courts at Northcliffe will remain open with unrestricted access. A booking fee/ charging element on the refurbished courts will both fund coaching sessions and provide a sinking fund to ensure sustainability of the courts and is part of the grant conditions being applied nationally by the LTA to all the park courts they are refurbishing. Final details of the charging and coaching elements are still in development and members will be updated as proposals are negotiated. The Council is currently seeking to recognise the Bradford Leisure Card within the proposed charging regime, as used by our sports facilities across the district, to ensure equitable and extended access for economically disadvantaged residents.

14. Councillor Ian Parsons

Bradford is the City of Culture in 2025. Eccleshill village and surrounds are currently being evaluated for Conservation Area status. Should Eccleshill be successful we would be the 60th Conservation Area awarded in Bradford District. Does the leader agree with me that the heritage of Bradford is a key part of our Districts identity, and as such should be protected for future generations? And if so, will the leader support Eccleshill Village in becoming the 60th Conservation Area in the District?

Response

I agree that the heritage of Bradford is a vital component of our district's identity and preserving it for future generations is of paramount importance. The evaluation of designation of Eccleshill Village as a conservation area in Bradford District, is a component of safeguarding our cultural and historical legacy.

As we anticipate Bradford becoming the City of Culture in 2025, acknowledging and protecting our heritage becomes even more crucial. The Council is pleased to assess the heritage significance of Eccleshill Village. Existing designations not only ensure the protection of our heritage but also fosters a sense of pride and identity among our communities.

In response to public interest in the designation of a part of Eccleshill as a conservation area, the Planning Service is preparing a draft conservation area character appraisal, on which it will undertake a public consultation exercise. A decision would ultimately go to a planning committee for approval. Cllrs Parsons and Hayden have been instrumental in strongly promoting Eccleshill's heritage, I thank them for their work and support their endeavours.

15. Councillor Aneela Ahmed

Rising social care costs are the most common issue affecting local authorities at the moment with the Macalister review saying £2.6bn is needed for children's services alone. Is there work going on to press the government to address this chronic underfunding?

Response

The Local Authority is working closely with the Children's Trust, the DfE (Department for Education) and DLUHC (Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities) to raise awareness of the particular financial challenges that are being faced in Bradford in respect of Children's Social Care.

On a national level, the ADCS (Association of Directors of Children's Services) is actively engaging with the Government to impress upon them the need to urgently review how Local Authorities are funded to deliver statutory services for Children & Young People. There is a particular focus and drive to encourage the Government to implement changes associated with Agency social workers, as well as capping the independent residential sector fees and their profit margins. Both are referenced in the Macalister Review but Government action has thus far not been forthcoming.

16. Councillor Debbie Davies

Following the recent incident of a collapsed wall in Baildon which thankfully didn't injure anyone but did block a major road for a few days, can the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning & Transport, please confirm whether there are there any plans to upgrade risk assessment procedures, as there are numerous similar walls across the district that could be at risk of collapse particularly following heavy rainfall?

Response

The collapsed wall in Baildon is a privately owned wall and, despite being adjacent to the Baildon Road, was not one which the Council was responsible for maintaining.

Retaining walls which are the Council's responsibility are subject to a programme of annual visual inspections by a qualified structural engineer with more detailed, principal inspections, being carried out every six years. This inspection regime allows for effective monitoring and planning of maintenance works and is considered suitable to ensure that risks of potential failure of the structure are identified early.

The question as to whether the Council plans to upgrade its risk assessment procedures must therefore be considered within the context of two scenarios (i.e., where the maintenance of a structure is the responsibility of a private third-party or where it is the Council's responsibility). In the case of Council assets, the arrangements which currently exist are deemed sufficient to ensure that the Council can carry out its own maintenance responsibilities. In the case of privately owned assets this is a more complex issue, as it relies on third parties to take ownership and action.

Where the Council is advised of a potential issue with a privately owned wall it initially triages the details of the concern and if necessary, arranges for a special inspection (SI) to be undertaken by one of its structural engineers. We have recently updated our Scheme of Delegation for Highways and Transportation matters to provide a mechanism for transitioning between serving a notice to require repairs and enforcing those requirements. This change will be implemented in the New Year when the new scheme becomes operational.

17. Councillor Liz Rowe

Is the district hosting plenty of Christmas events this year to bring much needed cheer to families?

Response

I would like to thank Cllr Rowe for her question and I can confirm that there are many events taking place across the district for a range of interests and activities over the festive season for everyone to enjoy. I have included a list

which includes over 34 free family activities happening across the district from Shipley to Holme Wood offering everything from craft, music, dance and theatre.

Organisati on/Artist Name	Activty	Description	Start Date	End Date	Website
Summat Creative/ Shipley Town Council	Shipley Christmas Lights	To celebrate the lighting up of the town's festive lights and large Christmas tree, a day of free entertainment for visitors and residents will take place between 10.00am – 4.45pm	25/11/23	Lights Until January	shipleytowncouncil.gov.uk/2023/10/25/shipley-christmas-lights-switch-on-event-details/
Saltaire Inspired	The Saltaire Living Advent Calendar	The Saltaire Living Advent Calendar has been a feature of our village since 2006. For 2023, 57 windows will open in the run up to Christmas, with 15 businesses and community buildings illuminated from 1st December, then at least one new window being 'opened' each evening until 24th December. Windows are illuminated from 4pm – 10.30pm each evening, and all remain lit until the 1st of January.	01/12/23	01/01/24	saltaireinspired.org.uk/events/living-advent-calendar/
Letty McHugh	Joy In Unexpected Places	Joy in Unexpected Places celebrates the sometimes overlooked beauty of Keighley through light installations created by local artist Letty McHugh.	01/12/23	Until January 2024	www.visitbradford.com/whats-on/joy-in-unexpected-places-bd-is-lit-p2030641
Same Difference Arts	Robin Hood Community Performances	Same Difference Arts will perform an accessible and inclusive Christmas Show, Robin Hood, for free in two local community spaces that have limited arts or cultural provisions currently. Also touring other Christmas themed shows.	02/12/23	19/12/23	https://www.same-difference-arts.com

BCB 106.6fm	Festive Focus on BCB 106.6fm	Monday-Friday 5.45-6pm. A roundup of events and activities taking place around Christmas across the district	04/12/2-23	22/12/23	www.bcbradio.co.uk/
Mind The Gap	Community Open Day	MTG Studios on Patent Street, 3-7pm – a community open day with food around 5pm, all welcome!	06/12/23	06/12/23	www.mind-the-gap.org.uk/
Bronte Parsonage	Christmas By Candlelight - Late Night opening	<p>Experience Haworth Stop by and explore the Museum by candlelight before a spot of late-night shopping in Haworth, as Main Street remains open until 8pm to mark the start of Christmas in Haworth. Visit the Christmas in Haworth website to explore what's on.</p> <p>The Museum will remain open until 7pm, showcasing the quiet magic of Haworth Parsonage dressed for the festive season. The Museum shop will also be open, where you can browse our beautiful range of books, gifts and festive decorations. Every purchase supports the collection in our care. Parsonage by candlelight - 05:00pm - 07:00pm.</p>	07/12/23	07/12/23	https://www.bronte.org.uk/whats-on/1340/christmas-by-candlelight-late-night-opening/6888

	Holme Wood Christmas Festival	Programme description - Ho Ho Ho Holme Wooooooood! The Holme Wood Christmas Festival is back. Join events including a Christmas Fair, Santa's Elves Workshop, Cinema Night and Rudolph Rave. Come and get festively excited with us!	7/8/10/11 12/20/24 December	24/12/23	www.visitbradford.com/whats-on/holmewood-christmas-festival-p2067461
St Georges Hall	Kate Rusby at Christmas	With a brand new Christmas album, Kate Rusby rounds off 2023 and celebrates her 50th birthday in style with a Christmas tour full of warmth, sparkles and festive music from her new and previous Christmas albums.	08/12/23	08/12/23	https://www.bradford-theatres.co.uk/whats-on/kate-rusby-at-christmas
Bronte Parsonage	Christmas By Candlelight - treasures	In this intimate event, you will experience a rare glimpse behind the scenes at the Museum Library, getting a closer look at some of the most precious treasures from the collection, personally selected by curator Sarah Laycock. Date: Friday 8 December 6.30pm – 8pm Tickets: £50 per person With almost 20 years' experience working with the Brontë Parsonage Museum, Sarah will share personal insight into the chosen items and reveal the secrets of working with our world-class Designated collection.	08/12/23	08/12/23	Christmas By Candlelight: Brontë Treasures Bronte Parsonage Museum

Dance United	Holme Wood Christmas Festival	<p>Dance United Yorkshire are bringing two groups of dancers, one aged 4-7 and the other aged 8-11,</p> <p>to St Christopher's Hall on Friday 8th December between 4-7pm.</p>	08/12/23	08/12/23	Holmewood Christmas Festival - Christmas Event in Bradford, Bradford - Bradford (visitbradford.com)
Alhambra Theatre	Cinderella	<p>You shall go to the ball this Christmas with Bradford panto legend, Billy Pearce, as the loveable Buttons, Emmerdale star Samantha Giles as The Wicked Stepmother and celebrity baker and Strictly Come Dancing finalist John Whaite as Dandini. Dale Mathurin will play Prince Charming and Yorkshire local Sarah Pearson will perform as the title role of Cinderella.</p> <p>Packed with all of the traditional ingredients Bradford audiences expect, our spectacular family pantomime Cinderella features laugh-out-loud comedy, stunning scenery, beautiful costumes and plenty of boos and hisses.</p>	09/12/23	21/01/24	https://www.bradford-theatres.co.uk/whats-on/cinderella
Keighley Creative	Free Christmas Arts and Crafts Workshop	<p>Free Christmas Arts and Crafts Workshop- Making festive framed pictures at Keighley Market. Saturday 9th December 11am-3pm</p>	09/12/23	09/12/23	https://keighleycreative.org/whats-on



St Georges Hall	Great Yorkshire Chorus	<p>Great Yorkshire Chorus returns to St George's Hall. Enjoy an evening of sparkling Christmas favourites as over 150 performers take to the stage.</p> <p>Start your festive season with this wonderful concert from the Yorkshire Wind Orchestra and Great Yorkshire Chorus. Enjoy an evening of sparkling Christmas favourites as over 150 performers take to the stage.</p> <p>A magical evening to get into the spirit of the season with beautiful carols and Christmas classics</p>	09/12/23	09/12/23	https://www.bradford-theatres.co.uk/whats-on/great-yorkshire-chorus-a-christmas-festival
Bronte Parsonage	Scribble Saturday	<p>Poet and environmental artist Winston Plowes often finds inspiration in the changing seasons, and the unique offerings they bring.</p> <p>Join Winston at his wintery nature table to explore nature's seasonal treasures and learn a little about how the Brontës wrote about winter.</p> <p>Winston will help you spin your ideas into words, to create a collaborative poem which will be published on the Museum's website!</p> <p>This is a drop-in activity programmed as part of the Museum's 'Year of the Wild' celebrating the theme of nature in the Brontës' life and works.</p>	09/12/23	09/12/23	Scribble Saturday Bronte Parsonage Museum



		<p>Date: Saturday 9 December, 11am - 3pm</p> <p>This activity will take place upstairs at the Brontë Parsonage Museum.</p> <p>Free with entry to the Museum. No need to book. All ages welcome.</p>			
Bloomin Buds Theatre/Rockwell Centre	Rockwell Christmas Fayre	Rockwell Christmas Fayre	09/12/23	09/12/23	Rockwell Centre Bradford Facebook
Bronte Parsonage	Festive Ornament Embroidery workshops	<p>Decorations are going up and Christmas cheer is in the air! Join us for a festive morning of embroidery, as you'll learn to embroider, applique and stitch your own vintage ornament inspired by Haworth Parsonage.</p> <p>Led by embroidery experts Davinder and Caroline Madaher, this workshop is sure to get you in the festive mood as you learn new skills to create your very own Brontë Bauble.</p> <p>Date: Saturday 9 December, 10am-1pm Tickets: £25 per person</p>	09/12/23	09/12/23	Festive Ornament Embroidery Workshop Bronte Parsonage Museum
Impressions Gallery	Family Activities Creative Club	join in the fun and take part in free creative activities. These mini-making projects are especially designed for families with children aged 5 to 11 years old. Throughout the rest of the day you can also interact	09/12/2023 & 16/12/2023	16/12/23	https://www.impressions-gallery.com/whats-on/

		with our drawing wall, or get busy in our colouring corner.			
Bradford industrial Museum	Christmas Lino Print Workshop At Bradford Industrial Museum	<p>Explore the process of lino printing in this one day workshop and make a set of seasonal greetings cards to take away.</p> <p>We will experiment with the lino cutting tools, exploring what marks can be made and how positive and negative designs are cut. We will cut a range of designs to make a collaborative festive 'tapestry' design, and test how these will look when printed through taking rubbings. You will be introduced to how inking and printing works, using a hand-finishing technique called burnishing. You will then design and cut your own festive image, which you will print to make greetings cards and gift tags. You will leave with a set of between 5 to 10 cards with envelopes and gift tags. Limited to just 8 spaces. Book your place on Eventbrite here.</p>	09/12/23	09/12/23	Christmas Lino Print Workshop at Bradford Industrial Museum - Bradford Museums & Galleries
St Georges Hall	A Very Musical Christmas	Leeds Musical Theatre Choir are delighted to be bringing a touch of Musical Christmas magic to St George's Hall. The choir made up of over 250 members, will perform your favourite songs from Stage and Screen along with some	10/12/23	10/12/23	https://www.bradford-theatres.co.uk/whats-on/leeds-musical-theatre-choir



		wonderful Christmas arrangements too!			
Bloomin Buds Theatre/Rockwell Centre	Christmas Dinner	Christmas Dinner - 11.30am-2pm, food served at 12pm. Three course Christmas dinner for £10.00 - must book in advance, can message us on facebook to do this or pop in. HAF activity - christmas themed activities for children and a chance to meet santa 10am-2pm - priority for children on free school means - more info to be on our facebook page	14/12/23	14/12/23	Rockwell Centre Bradford Facebook www.bloominbuds.co.uk
Impressions Gallery	Time for Tea	Join us for free tea and cake at this festive, friendly, social morning in the gallery. AT 11.30am we will give a short talk about our current exhibition. Time for tea is our regular free event for over 60's. All are welcome	14/01/00	14/12/23	https://www.impressions-gallery.com/whats-on/
St Georges Hall	Brighthouse and Rastrick Christmas Concert	Join the world-famous Brighthouse & Rastrick Band for their fantastic annual festive concert with all of the Christmas trimmings with yuletide greats and carols	15/12/23	15/12/23	https://www.bradford-theatres.co.uk/whats-on/brighthouse-rastrick-band-christmas-concert
Keighley Creative	Christmas makers Fayre	Christmas Maker Faire & Open Studios. Saturday 16th December 10:30am-3:30pm	16/12/23	16/12/23	https://keighleycreative.org/whats-on
Keighley Creative	Free Christmas Arts and Crafts Workshop	Free Christmas Arts and Crafts Workshop- Making Scandinavian style decorations. Saturday 16th December 11am-3pm	16/12/23	16/12/23	https://keighleycreative.org/whats-on



St Georges Hall	Christmas at the Movies	Join the acclaimed 70-piece Studio Orchestra as they take you on a magical journey through some of the best loved festive films of all time, including: Love Actually, The Nightmare Before Christmas, Elf, The Polar Express, Home Alone, The Holiday, Harry Potter, It's A Wonderful Life and many more.	16/12/23	16/12/23	https://www.bradford-theatres.co.uk/whats-on/christmas-at-the-movies
Cliffe Castle Museum	A Cliffe Castle Christmas	join us at Cliffe Castle as we celebrate Christmas. There's something for everyone with live music, market stalls, family crafts and more across the different dates. And of course, we'll be joined by a very special guest each day... Santa himself! Please note that tickets for Santa's Grotto are priced at £10 each which includes a gift and certificate. All proceeds go to Keighley Lions. Whilst a very limited number of tickets will be available on the day, booking via the following link is strongly recommended to avoid disappointment: www.keighleylions.org.uk/shop/p/santas-grotto-ticket-cliffe-castle	17/12/23	17/12/23	A Cliffe Castle Christmas - Bradford Museums & Galleries
Kings Hall	Positively Christmas	A charity Cabaret for Jacqui's Million that will get your Christmas off to a 'positively' flying start. With all the songs you love, Winter Wonderland, Let It Snow, Let it Snow, When a Child is Born, All I Want for Christmas is	17/12/23	17/12/23	https://www.bradford-theatres.co.uk/whats-on/positively-christmas

		<p>You, Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas & many more!</p> <p>Come along and enjoy the festivities with the Jingle Bell Rock!</p>			
Bradford Youth Players	Christmas Cracker Showcase	(an evening of Christmas-themed performances – singing, dancing and acting - by our young people) at Fountains Church, Bradford	19/12/23	19/12/23	www.bradfordyouthplayers.co.uk
Agape Christian Centre	Arts and Crafts Making	The project is targeted at children and young persons between 5-16 years who are interested but targeted at those of African descent in Bradford. Arts such as knitting, pottery, bead and hair making are an integral part of the African culture. This project aims to expose the young minds to these arts though they are far away from Africa and hopefully ignite the fire of creativity in them.	19/12/23	22/12/23	https://www.children@aicccchurch.org
Bloomin Buds/Rockwell Centre	HAF Activity	HAF activity - christmas themed activities for children and a chance to meet santa 10am-2pm - priority for children on free school means - more info to be on our facebook page	20/12/23	23/12/23	Rockwell Centre Bradford Facebook / www.bloominbuds.co.uk

Bowling Hall Museum and Library	Family Christmas at Bowling Hall	<p>Bolling Hall Museum & Library 11AM - 3PM Join us to Deck the Halls! Make a traditional Peg Doll toy to take home, ice a gingerbread biscuit and decorate a wooden bauble to add to the beautiful Christmas tree.</p> <p>The Crickmore Crew will be singing traditional Christmas songs throughout the day, helping us enjoy the festive season atmosphere of this wonderful historic home!</p> <p>For large groups, please e-mail miroslava.zarkov@bradford.gov.uk to book a space, others just drop-in.</p>	20/12/23	20/12/23	<p style="text-align: right;">Family Christmas at Bolling Hall - Bradford Museums & Galleries</p>
Bloomin Buds Theatre/Rockwell Centre	Christmas Give Away	<p>christmas toy giveaway, come to collect a present for your child, no questions asked for free. 10am-2pm whilst stocks last</p>	23/12/23	22/12/23	<p style="text-align: right;">Rockwell Centre Bradford Facebook</p>

18. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland

Can the Portfolio Holder advise how many households with children are on the Housing List waiting for a suitable family home?

Response

Of the 19,960 active applications on Bradford Council's housing list on 4 December 2023, we have 8,670 households with children looking for a suitable home.

19. Councillor Liz Rowe

Does the portfolio holder join me in welcoming the opening of the enterprise hub at Shipley library and can he give a summary of the kind of services it will offer?

Response

Yes, I very much welcome the launch of the Enterprise Hub at Shipley Library, which Cllr Alex Ross-Shaw attended and opened on behalf of the Shipley Towns Fund, which provided the funding. The new facility will offer resources and advice to local businesses and start-ups, and the space will also be used for meetings and co-working. There will be an on-site dedicated business information advisor who will be able to offer advice and guidance as well as training local library staff to assist. There will be advice sessions, workshops and events both live and streamed, and the opportunity for local entrepreneurs to exhibit their products. A particular strength of the offer is access to a specialist database to help with market research, as well as intellectual property advice.

20. Councillor Paul Godwin

It was good to hear that the council's Landscape, Design & Conservation Team has won a couple of national awards. Will the portfolio holder explain what work has been rewarded in this way?

Response

It was great to see our Landscape team win national awards and it was richly deserved for their work across the district. The Landscape, Design & Conservation Team has received the Landscape Institute Award 2023 for Excellence in Public Health and Wellbeing, and the Landscape Institute President's Award for the Best Landscape Scheme of the Year.

The award for Excellence in Public Health and Wellbeing celebrates landscape projects that seek to maximise the positive impact of place on human health and wellbeing, and recognises the body of work the Landscape, Design & Conservation Team have been delivering in recent years. The President of the Landscape Institute selects one piece of work from the winners of all the individual award categories for the presentation of the President's Award for the Best Landscape Scheme of the Year.

Collaborations have enabled the Landscape Design & Conservation Team to work with and for Bradford Institute for Health Research, Better Start Bradford and the lottery funded Better Place Project, JU:MP (Join Us: Move. Play.) led by Active Bradford and funded by Sport England, Well Bradford, Bradford Moor PASS and Making Space for Girls. Within the Council, colleagues in Public Health, Planning and Highways, have worked with the Landscape Design & Conservation Team on the shared vision for a health inspired landscape around the District.

Projects representative of this body of work include Kashmir Play Park (formerly known as Scotchman Road Play Park), Attock Park Community Garden and Toddler Play Area, Windhill Recreation Ground, Horton Park Play Area, Fagley Playspace, Bowling Park Play Area, Pitty Beck, Beech Grove Greenway, Church Green Dementia Garden in Keighley, and the Bradford Institute of Health Research Garden.

The Council has joined several European research projects to grow our knowledge base and share experiences in creating blue green infrastructure that supports public health and well-being. Interreg BEGIN (Blue Green Infrastructures through Social Innovation) looked at how cities can improve climate resilience with blue green infrastructure involving stakeholders and has grown to consider how the same intervention can also create better public health and wellbeing outcomes. URBACT Healthy Cities Action Planning network aimed to deepen the relationship between health and the urban environment, planning actions that focus on improving the population's health, and the multiplicity of possible approaches to tackle the issue including green areas, mobility, social cohesion or promotion of sports.

The Landscape, Design & Conservation Team will continue to deliver the insights learnt into the positive impact of place on human health and wellbeing in current and future blue green infrastructure, public realm and placemaking projects.

21. Councillor Paul Godwin

Will the Portfolio Holder join with me in wishing the Keighley Town Centre Business Improvement District team well in their ballot? If successful how much investment would the BID bring to Keighley?

Response

I'm delighted to say that on the 2 December Keighley Business Improvement District (BID) announced that the ballot of 300 business premises in Keighley Town Centre had resulted in a yes vote and that the BID would now enter a second five year delivery term.

In this period, the BID will generate up to £900,000 from the levy and, to maximise impact, will also explore opportunities to secure grant funding and private sector investment.

With this funding, Keighley BID will deliver a plan over the next five years, supporting over 600 businesses and making the town centre area a better place to do business, creating a positive, vibrant experience for people who visit, work and live in the town centre.

The proposed activity will focus on promoting the town centre and encouraging people to shop local. Keighley BID will deliver new improvement projects to create a safer, greener and cleaner town centre environment for consumers and businesses.

22. Councillor Mike Pollard

Would the Portfolio Holder for Children & Families clarify, if the 'Newton Model' was as claimed, not actually used to project revenue budget requirements for the Bradford Children's and Families Trust Budget, what was the process that took place with regard to the establishment of the manifestly unrealistic contract sum model for the first year of operation of the Trust, were both parties content to 'sign

off that process and if not, why did the Council not refuse to sign off a budget which it already knew at that point to be undeliverable?

Response

I can confirm that the Newton model was not utilised to inform the budget projections to determine the contract sum between the local authority and the council. Newtons has been more recently engaged by the Children's Trust and one of their Directors sits on the Board so has intimate knowledge of the Trust's operations.

When developing the contract before the establishment of the Trust a demand projection model tool was used that was developed by an external provider commissioned by the DfE. The model provided data to determine the trajectory of children moving in and out of the Care system to enable work on the development of a Contract Sum for the Trust. In addition, the projected outturn position for Children's Services at the end of the 22/23 financial year also informed the Contract Sum negotiations.

The above work, alongside detailed dialogue and discussions with the Children's Trust and the DfE, enabled agreement to be reached on the Contract Sum.

The demand projections for the numbers of children in care has generally been accurate. Data shows that the number of children in care has broadly been slightly lower than the month-on-month projections. The areas where there have been differences has been mainly in respect of the placement projections whereby there has been an increased reliance on external fostering and residential placements needing to be used. Unfortunately, the unprecedented increase in placement fees in the independent residential sector has contributed substantially to the financial pressures faced by the Trust.

In addition to the increase in placement fees, there have been ongoing additional cost pressures incurred by the trust through the recruitment of agency staff.

It is to be noted that there is now a recruitment strategy in place which is designed at addressing this by recruiting permanent social workers.

The local authority is supporting the trust with this strategy as appropriate.

23. Councillor Matt Edwards

Residents in Tong Village are incredibly frustrated by the increased amount of anti-social behaviour linked to dangerous and inconsiderate driving (and parking) along Tong Lane, especially close to the junction with Westgate Hill Street. The council has a PSPO to tackle 'anti-social use of vehicles in Bradford' so what are the Safer Bradford team doing to enforce the PSPO on Tong Lane?

Response

Enforcement of the PSPO is being delivered by Bradford Council and West Yorkshire Police 'Steerside', NPT and Road Policing Teams. If vehicle users are stopped by the Police for breach of PSPO then a 'Notice of Offence' will be issued and sent to Bradford Council to determine whether it is appropriate to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice. The issuing of the fixed penalty can be contested in court.

Bradford Council also enforce the PSPO retrospectively, by submission of dash cam and CCTV footage. If any residents wish to submit any dash cam or CCTV footage they can email us on. safer.communities@bradford.gov.uk

A broad range of Neighbourhoods services Teams including the safer team and Area Office teams are working closely with residents and businesses using a preventative approach. Local businesses have assured us that they have put measures in place to reduce the problems highlighted including providing customers with information about the nuisance caused to the local community and the risks to livestock in the surrounding rural setting we continue to monitor this.

We have explored a range of crime prevention and target hardening measures and put these in place where appropriate. We will continue working with residents and businesses in the area to mitigate the problem.

24. Councillor Nazam Azam

The police and councils across the country need considerably more funding to tackle the scourge of antisocial behaviour. The announcement of the Safer Streets Fund was therefore welcome. Can the portfolio holder tell me how much the district receives from this fund and how we plan to spend it?

Response

Bradford received a £185,000 Safer Streets fund from the Home Office via the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and is targeted towards reducing Anti-Social Behaviour, Violence against Women and Girls and Neighbourhood crime in the district. Bradfords funding supports Safer Bradford (Bradford Community Safety Partnership) priorities. These include projects tackling nuisance motorbikes and quad bikes, safety of women and girls, anti-social behaviour hotspots, safety in the city centre and the nighttime economy. The district will, in addition, also benefit from a share of the wider West Yorkshire Police funding pot for forensic marking and target hardening. Individual projects supported by the fund are as follows:

- Enhanced CCTV capability – enhance the local authority’s capability to respond more dynamically to issues or concerns exploring flexible camera opportunities and mobile capability including drones and body cam.
- CCTV based Night-time Support Unit – Much greater utilisation of our substantial CCTV capacity in the city centre and enables a multi-service response, including the provision of extra staffing capacity in the CCTV room, dedicated to issues in the city centre and the nighttime economy.
- Police Targeted Patrols in response to off road bikes – Targeted patrols in the highest demand areas alongside engagement and education.
- OnTrak Community Initiative – An educational programme covering road safety, levels of social responsibility, consequences of crime and ASB

and the impact this has on themselves and the wider the community it will allow young people to build trust and open up about issues impacting on them and their behaviour in a safe environment. Targeting the areas with the highest Off-Road Bike ASB.

- Operation Soundwood – Enhanced Visibility to tackle ASB to utilise ASB interventions to create a safer NTE– Using ASB PSPO legislation to tackle the concern of students around the University, Addressing the concerns raised by
- female Students in relation to the harassment by men from vehicles. Utilising plan vehicles and high visibility patrols.
- Neighbourhood Management Days of Action – Targeted operations run in relation to the anti-social use of motor vehicles and areas of high anti-social behaviour and Neighbourhood crime. Increased Police resource, targeted engagement and education around crime prevention and the development of community intelligence.
- Bradford East NPT and Bradford City – Community Foundation – PCSOs working with the Foundations team Peer Action Collective (PAC) team working together to engage with primary schools from Bradford East to foster positive relationships, promote safety awareness, and empower young minds to become responsible citizens. Delivering interactive workshops, educational sessions, and fun activities around crucial topics like online safety, anti-bullying, knife crime, ASB, healthy relationships and the importance of respecting one another.

25. Councillor Julie Humphreys

Can the Leader advise what the Household Support Fund delivers in the district and whether the Government is likely to continue the fund next year?

Response

In Bradford, funding has been allocated to support the following:

- Payments to low income household to assist with food and fuel bills
- Food provision through voluntary sector and food banks
- Support to groups such as carers, care leavers, foster carers and new parents
- Emergency fuel top ups for those on meters
- Help to buy essential household goods

Full details are published on our website [Household costs | Bradford Council](#)

Our fear is that the government will not provide any more funding for our most disadvantaged residents. They have not committed to HSF funding from April 2024, their current statement is:

The Government has provided over £2 billion in funding for the Household Support Fund since October 2021. The current Household Support Fund runs from April 2023 until the end of March 2024. No further decisions have been taken on the Household Support Fund, and the government continues to keep all its existing programmes under review in the usual way.

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We feel that the funding is still very much needed in the district to support those most affected by the cost-of-living crisis and will be doing what we can to lobby Government to continue this funding stream and give us adequate notice so we can plan and prepare for 2024/25.

26. Councillor Tariq Hussain

Following on from our motion at the last full council to tackle nuisance fireworks and the work done around Bonfire Night. Will the portfolio holder give an update on how the Bonfire Night period passed this year?

Response

The Bonfire Period in 2023 continued the trend in recent years of reducing instances of crime and anti-social behaviour. Calls to the Police for anti-social behaviour reduced, as were the number of attacks on Fire Service staff. Bonfire Night, though busy, was quieter than recent years. However, it must be reiterated that levels of disorder, in general, remain at unacceptable levels.

As in previous years, the Council Neighbourhood Services teams including co-ordination from Safer Communities Team, Area Offices, Council Youth Services, our communities, elected members, and voluntary groups worked alongside blue light services providing a significant partnership response. This helped to educate and build resilience, challenge negative behaviours and, where necessary, take appropriate enforcement action. Local community volunteers, co-ordinated through the area office teams, were engaged in pre-emptive and proactive actions that minimised problems and controlled incidents before they got out of hand, especially in hot spot areas. This led to a number of potential incidents being minimised or avoided completely.

The Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Team was actively involved in undertaking prevention work with those most vulnerable to becoming involved in anti-social or dangerous behaviour. Several hundred community volunteers were enlisted across the district, including a mix of residents, business representatives, voluntary groups and faith leaders.

In the weeks running up to Bonfire Night Clean Teams from both the Council and Incommunities shifted hundreds of tonnes of waste that presented a danger if set alight. This work included the checking of bonfires that were being built and dismantling those which remained a danger to the public.

On the 4th and 5th November, the Youth Service deployed up to 80 staff each night working across all 5 constituencies in teams of 3-4 workers. This involved the majority of the service in street-based work responding to calls for service to engage groups of youngsters and the remainder in youth centre-based work. This work was pre-empted with centre-based education/awareness inputs on the danger of fireworks, illegal fires and anti-social behaviour during the period running up to Bonfire Night.

27. Councillor Aneela Ahmed

Does the portfolio holder join me in welcoming the government u-turn on its plan to shut train station ticket offices?

Response

I do welcome the Government U-Turn on the plan to close most railway station ticket offices in England, including six of the seven ticket offices in Bradford District. The Council responded to the Transport Focus consultation on behalf of residents and visitors to the District, noting that ticket offices are well used by many and most crucially perform a critical function for those who need assistance with their journey and may be unfamiliar with the rail network. Data we have seen showed that ticket offices in Bradford were very busy in most of the hours they were open and were indeed the only way to purchase some rail products. The Council also supported the Combined Authority's response to the consultation. The retention of ticket offices will ensure that passengers can continue to access valued advice on fares and purchase local multi-modal and national products, including with cash.

28. Councillor Rebecca Poulsen

Would the Portfolio Holder for Healthy People and Places please advise why Councillors were not advised that HWRC's were to be closed on Mondays and why was it thought that a good time to introduce the pilot was in the run up to Christmas and New Year, when much waste is generated?

Response

Officers have advised me that because this was a decision that needed speedy implementation there was a mix up with the communications, which they acknowledge should have been done in a more timely manner. Annually, the winter months (November to February) tend to be the quietest for visits and the data we hold, backs this up. HWRCs are already closed on Bank Holidays and open as normal for the rest of the Christmas break so the change to Mondays at Christmas time has no different impact on services.

29. Councillor Rizwana Jamil

As we move into the final 12 months of preparation can the portfolio holder tell me how the plans are progressing for our district's year as UK City of Culture 2025 and what great things our residents can look forward to.

Response

The plans for delivering the UK City of Culture programme during 2025 are progressing well and according to programme. Preparations can be split between those that are being made by the council and those that are being made by the Bradford Culture Company Ltd (Bradford 2025) the independent organisation who will deliver the programme of events during 2025.

For its part, the council has created a District Readiness Board of senior officers who, through the work of four subgroups, are developing and delivering a range of workstreams to ensure that the district is prepared well in advance, 26

to welcome a significant number of additional visitors from across the UK and further afield. Amongst the many programmes of work that are being undertaken, are the following:

- Review of all signage, street furniture and cleansing regimes along key routes into and within the District, in order to ensure that they are prepared for 'dressing' with banners, flags and other signage that will promote the year of culture in addition to the regular services undertaken to keep Bradford clean and well-promoted
- Preparation for additional meetings of the council's Safety Advisory Group (SAG) in relation to the events that will take place as part of the UK City of Culture Year
- Co-ordination of all infrastructure and public realm works (such as Transforming Cities Programme, installation of District Heating Network by a third-party contractor, in order to ensure that works do not compromise delivery of City of Culture 2025
- Ensuring an appropriate welcome at all boundary points across the District that recognises the national UK City of Culture status that has been bestowed upon Bradford District

Bradford 2025 is in the process of putting together its programme of events for the year of culture, elements of which will be announced in stages throughout 2024 with the full programme announced later in the year.

As is expected of all incumbent UK City of Culture title-holders, Bradford 2025 will roll out an evolved brand identity in early 2024, in order to differentiate the bid phase from the celebration year itself.

Bradford 2025 continues to secure additional resources from national partners and private sponsorship to deliver the programme of events and continue to work with the Council to identify key venues / locations, particularly for the larger national flagship events that are expected to be hosted within the Bradford District during 2025.

During 2024 the pace of preparation will increase significantly, and measures are in place by the Culture Company to keep elected members and Bradford's communities up to date as we head towards 2025, including opportunities to volunteer during the year itself.

Residents can look forward to seeing a range of fantastic events during 2025, with each ward within the District hosting events at some part of the year. They will enjoy seeing Bradford's rich history and diversity being celebrated and also seeing Bradford featuring nationally and internationally on TV and media. The year is predicted to see an increase in visitors to the district of over 3 million, bringing much needed disposable income and investment into local businesses. Ultimately, the objective is to secure growth of the cultural sector and of Bradford's economy, ensuring that all of our communities can benefit from the

year of culture and its legacy. This will include new jobs and training opportunities as well as the chance to become more involved with cultural events and activities.

30. Councillor Caroline Whitaker

Will the council be providing real time air pollution monitoring equipment for traffic congestion hotspots outside the Clean Air Zone?

Response

The Council operates seven automatic monitoring stations. In addition to Manningham Lane, Thornton Road, Mayo Avenue, Rooley Lane and Shipley Airedale Road that are located within the CAZ, there are automatic monitoring stations on Tong Street and on the Green in Keighley that are outside the CAZ. These stations monitor Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) and fine / ultra-fine particulate matter (PM₁₀ / PM_{2.5}) and have been in place for up to 17 years.

In addition to the automatic stations, the Council monitors NO₂ at 400 points in the district forming one of the most extensive air quality monitoring networks anywhere in the UK. Some of these sites have been required by the Government. Our monitoring data is approved by Government and published on our Breathe Better Bradford website.

Our data continues to show that villages and towns north of the CAZ have air quality levels significantly below legal limits and, in some cases, among the best in the UK. Checks have also demonstrated that there has been no displacement of traffic resulting from the CAZ.

31. Councillor Riaz Ahmed

Listed as a benefit of the Councils Smart Street Lighting project was the idea that the new street lighting columns could facilitate the future introduction of electric car charging. We now learn that Northern Power Grid have indicated the power for street lighting is unsuitable for EV charging. What is the Portfolio Holders Plan to ensure that people with only on-street parking are not disadvantaged by the considerable pricing differentials between those households with a domestic charging point and those without?

Response

With regards the tariff, the neighbourhood charge points Bradford Council has installed on the Blink Network are Council owned so we set the tariff; the current tariff is 39p/kWh which covers the operating costs of the charge point. This is one of the cheapest tariffs on the market, the average price to charge a car on the public charging network in October was 55p/kWh on a fast charger (Source Zap Map Stats).

The government has provisionally allocated up to £14,326,000 capital under the UK Government's Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) Fund, this is to fund predominantly on street charging for residents without their own off street parking, which is likely to fund in the region of 155-270 charge points in our district.

The future contract the Council enters into for the on-street LEVI scheme will ensure long-term fair customer pricing. This will be developed through a

customer pricing strategy designed in partnership with the Combined Authority and/or District Partners. This strategy will use a transparent 'open book' approach, with the preferred approach to be an agreed price margin over the base energy costs. A ceiling may be agreed at the beginning of the contract with reference to the total cost of energy. If the service provider exceeds the ceiling in a given period, clawback clauses would apply to that period. A Key Performance Indicator to ensure competitive pricing will also be incorporated, within the contract with the charge point operator.

32. Councillor Bob Felstead

Would the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning and Transport, confirm whether the £12m refund from the WYCA Transport Budget has any legal / ringfencing restrictions regarding its use?

Response

A recent meeting of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority approved the refund of certain levy payments from the West Yorkshire plus Transport Fund. These payments had been collected from the five local authorities and were judged to be £51m in excess of the currently forecasted requirements. (The Combined Authority has the legal power to refund reserves from the levy to its constituent councils, pursuant to s. 10A (1) of the 1968 Transport Act). Accordingly, a refund of this excess levy has now been made, which resulted in a receipt to Bradford of our share which amounted to £11.8m.

There is no ring-fencing on these monies. This is a return of levy payments, and it was made without any restrictions attached to the refund.

33. Councillor Talat Sajawal

With over £10 million having been generated via the CAZ scheme. Can the portfolio holder assure us that the money will be ring fenced and spent on building the infrastructure to support those using electric cars, with charging ports and initiatives aimed at improving air quality across the district. Also, can we have a commitment that any of this money will not be used to cover the councils overspend of £65 million.

Response

The gross figure mentioned does not include the costs of running the service until 2028/29. In year operation costs are £2,700,000 which has to be covered by the CAZ income. The Council is only able to spend CAZ revenue in line with Annex 3 of the Bradford Charging Scheme Order (CSO) 2022 which is compliant with Schedule 12 of the Transport Act 2000. It has to be spent on initiatives that improve air quality, nothing else. The CSO can be found on the Breathe Better Bradford website.

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Amendments to Motions (Green) Agenda Item 12

Amendment A

12.1 – Shipley Eastern Bypass

To be Moved: by Cllr Martin Love

To be Seconded: by Cllr Kevin Warnes

This Council notes:

- The Clean Air Zone measures launched in September 2022 are improving air quality in the affected areas, including Shipley.
- Creating additional capacity on the road network results in increased traffic and pollution.
- Regardless of the Prime Minister's conference speech, the funding required to build a road that would need to bridge a railway, canal and river is unlikely to materialise, even if it were desirable.

That Council resolves to:

- Seek to reduce congestion by reducing traffic levels across the district.
- Prioritise active travel options, such as walking and cycling, over personal car use.
- Prioritise public transport provision over creating additional road capacity for cars.
- Resist the pressure from the local MP to waste further effort on his personal pet project.

Amendment B

12.1 Shipley Eastern Bypass

To be moved by: Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw

To be seconded by: Councillor Marcus Dearden

This Council notes that:

- As part of the original West Yorkshire devolution deal in 2012, Bradford Council submitted a number of transport schemes for consideration as part of the West Yorkshire+ Transport Fund, including Hard Ings in Keighley, Shipley Eastern Bypass and Harrogate Road/New Line in Bradford East
- Although it had a marginally positive Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR), Shipley Eastern Bypass failed to secure funding from Government as it had a lower score than many other transport schemes, primarily due to the significant extent of employment land that would be lost through the project and relatively low amount of land that would in turn be 'unlocked', meaning the economic impact was relatively poor.
- Since then, transport planning has evolved to take much greater account of climate change, Net Zero and sustainable and active travel, meaning 'traditional' road schemes that only increase road capacity are no longer considered best practice by Government.
- Bradford Council have proactively engaged with government on the project and completed a feasibility study looking at potential routes and options. Although the study showed a reasonable BCR, legitimate concerns were raised about potential severance between Windhill and Shipley town centre caused by a new road, and the need for a wider look at the transport issues facing Shipley as they are today, and not over a decade ago when the project was conceived.
- The government accepted these concerns and suggested they could be looked at through further funding as part of the Major Route Network (MRN) fund, but insisted that Bradford Council provide 10%+ match funding, which would total millions of pounds.
- Council infrastructure funding on that scale is always secured externally from central government so there was no way Bradford Council could provide such an amount on its own. Government refused to consider other commitments in the

area such as transport related elements of Shipley Towns Fund as match, and therefore it was impossible to progress the scheme any further.

- We were pleased to hear the Prime Minister seemingly announcing funding for Shipley Eastern Bypass as part of his conference speech revealing 'Network North'. However, a number of projects 'announced' were found not to exist or had already been delivered. Government has since clarified many of the listed examples were only 'indicative' of the sorts of things that might be funded.
- Despite our direct requests, Bradford Council have still been provided with no information from Government on how Shipley Eastern Bypass can access the funding promised to progress the scheme.

This Council resolves to:

- Continue to press Government to reveal their intentions behind the recent announcement and engage them on next steps.
- As part of any further work, consider Shipley's transport issues more widely and how a sustainable transport network can be developed for the town centre that works for all communities and supports the journey to Net Zero.

Amendment C

12.2 - Proactive prevention of illegal encampments

To be moved by: Cllr Jeanette Sunderland

To be seconded by: Cllr Alun Griffiths

That the following words be added at the end of the motion:

Should the Council agree to a public consultation and feasibility study the consultation and study should include, but not be limited to:

- a) A full explanation as to the under-occupancy of the traveller sites
- b) Why existing legislation and processes, including those of the judiciary, are insufficient.
- c) The risks and benefits of using newcomer injunctions.
- d) How the proposals have been guided by the principles of justice and equality
- e) How the Rights of Gypsy and Traveller Children, as expressed by the UN Convention, will be protected.

Amendment D

12.2 - Proactive prevention of illegal encampments

To be moved by: Councillor Sarah Ferriby

To be seconded by: Councillor Abdul Jabar

This Council notes that:

- The Council has to have a balanced approach which recognises the needs and rights of residents and those of the nomadic Gypsy and Traveller community.
- The Council has recently introduced a Gypsy and Traveller Strategy that looks to improve the health outcomes for what is a marginalised ethnic minority. Life expectancy is 10-12 years less than average.
- Bradford Council provides two official traveller sites, one of which has a waiting list, the other has a small number of vacancies.
- The Council needs to give consideration to the provision of transit sites or negotiated stopping sites. These are important where the number of caravans exceeds the places available for the travellers to stop. Such provision would provide West Yorkshire Police with more opportunity to use their powers on unauthorised encampments.
- The Supreme court stated that to grant newcomer injunctions (these are injunctions when there is no named person) there are 4 equitable principles that require addressing.

First principle – Where there is a right there must be a remedy to fit that right – in practice the Council must demonstrate through evidence that the injunction is required as a compelling need to protect civil rights or enforce public law that is not adequately met by other remedies.

Second principle – Equity looks to the substance rather than the form. In practice this is about making sure that the injunction is widely publicised at application stage, once it has been granted and also offers the opportunity for any newcomer to be able to challenge it if they become aware of it later.

Third principle – Equity operated flexibly and responds to changes in circumstances over time. In practice as the interests of the G&T community are not represented in

applications the Council must disclose to the court any issue that a newcomer might raise in opposition to the order (in effect factors that support the not granting on the injunction)

Fourth principle – Equity is not constrained by any limiting rule in fashioning a remedy to suit new circumstances. In practice newcomer injunctions must not apply for a disproportionately long period of time or disproportionately large geographical area.

What this highlights is that the Supreme Court review of newcomer injunctions has resulted in a significant increase in the legal tests that have to be applied to any application and so require the submission of significant and compelling evidence for their need. It is unlikely that Courts would grant blanket ban injunctions that cover the whole district given the recent Supreme Court ruling. Injunctions also have a finite life span and so once expired the Council will then have to repeat the application process, being mindful of the Supreme Court's fourth principle.

That Council resolves that:

- The Council should continue to work with the Gypsy and Traveller Community and accelerate actions to deliver on its Gypsy and Traveller Community Strategy.
- The Council should review its policy for unauthorised encampments and give due consideration to the letter of the law, in light of recent Supreme Court rulings.
- The Council should continue to tackle anti social behaviour in conjunction with the Police no matter where and when it happens in the district.

Amendment E

12.3 - Fast Fashion and its environmental impact

To be moved by: Councillor Julie Glentworth
To be seconded by: Councillor Rebecca Poulsen

With the addition and deletion of appropriate words, the motion be amended to read as follows:-

This Council notes:

- Overall consumption of garments has increased since the 1980s, due to the ongoing decline in quality and longevity driven by fast fashion.
- The production, consumption, disposal of and low levels of the recycling of clothes has a large environmental impact, in the form of landfill, incineration, water usage and water pollution (including microplastics).
- A variety of factors including inadequate technology, the massive levels of consumption, the absence of economies of scale and blended product ingredients have for several decades, acted as cost prohibitive barriers to entry into the textile recycling industry.
- The current unsustainably low levels of textile recycling are however, soon set to improve dramatically due to a significant, accelerating industry transformation, driven by advances in technology that are creating a large and sustainable new industry that turns textile waste into value.
- Government action, increasingly environment conscious consumers, coupled with new technologies creating economies of scale and profitability, are set to make significant incremental improvements to the situation, generating more circular economies in textile use.
- Whilst everyone deserves fair wages and employment practices, modern day slavery and unethical labour practices are notoriously linked to the fashion industry both globally and locally and despite the Conservative Government's introduction of the Modern-Day Slavery Act 2015, there have been numerous incidents of garment workers in UK production centres such as Leicester being paid below the minimum wage.
- This is an international problem and not an issue which this Council can influence, other than continuing to encourage residents and business owners of the importance of recycling.

That Council resolves:

- To ensure that it continues to encourage residents and business owners to behave responsibly in relation to their waste levels and monitor advances in the textile waste industry to ensure that its recycling service evolves to maximise the local benefit of the improvements in recycling technologies.

12.3 - Fast Fashion and its environmental impact

To be moved by: Councillor Si Cunningham

To be seconded by: Councillor Sarah Ferriby

The production, consumption and disposal of clothes has a large environmental impact.

Only a small proportion of textiles are recycled in the UK. Every year approximately one million tonnes of textiles are discarded in the UK. While some of these are resold in charity shops, around 300,000 tonnes of clothing still ends up in household bins. Approximately 20 percent of this goes to landfill and 80 percent is incinerated.

The UK consumes more new clothing than any other European country at 26.7kg per capita, with individuals spending an average of £980 per year.

This Council notes:

that further environmental damage is caused by the fashion industry, including:

- a. 20% of water pollution resulting from the textile dyeing process, the second largest polluter of water globally.
- b. Micro plastics from synthetic clothing contributing to 20–35% of primary source marine micro plastics, with up to 700,000 fibres released in a single 6kg domestic wash.
- c. A water footprint of eight billion cubic metres, from clothing use in the UK.
- d. Fabric accounted for 800,000 tonnes of waste in the UK in 2016, a considerable increase from 700,000 tonnes in 2012.
- e. Overall consumption of garments since the 1980s has increased due to the ongoing decline in quality and longevity driven by the fast fashion business model.
- f. Landfill and incineration, often in less economically developed countries, is the endpoint of at least 64% of garments globally, only 1% of garments are recycled into new clothing.
- g. Modern slavery and unethical labour practices are notoriously linked to the fashion industry both globally and locally, including Shein employees being paid as little as three pence per garment, and forced labour of the Uyghur minority in

China; there are also reports that garment workers in UK production centres such as Leicester are

- h. frequently paid below the minimum wage.

This Council further notes:

- a. The report by the Textile Recycling Association “Trashion” which details the shocking impact of the export of plastic fashion waste to the southern hemisphere.
- b. The Bradford based Common Wealth Theatre Production Fast, Fast, Slow, which explored fast fashion, waste and our relationship with clothes, and the work by Revival Ghana at the Industrial Museum to talk about upcycling waste from the UK and how to upcycle clothing.
- c. The Keighley based Stitch Society successfully ran the Bradford district hub this year for Sustainable Fashion Week.
- d. The Councils approach to sell textiles as a commodity:

This Council believes:

- a. Urgent action is needed to tackle the climate emergency, including a shift towards circular economies.
- b. Everyone should have access to high quality clothing and informed consumer choice upon purchase.
- c. Everyone deserves fair wages and employment practices, no matter where they live in the world.
- d. Bradford district has significant knowledge and experience in this work, both through Bradford University’s Circular Economy specialism and also through Bradford College and their Fashion BA which includes Sustainability as part of the curriculum.
- e. The opportunity exists for Bradford to rebuild its expertise in textile production and recycling by producing an implementing a strategy for the Sustainability and Circularity for textiles.

That Council resolves to:

Work with other sector leaders to support them in raising awareness of the issue, acknowledging that the council doesn't have all the expertise in this field.

Task the Sustainability Director to meet with experts at Bradford University and Bradford College, Yorkshire Water (on account of micro plastics in rivers), the Stitch Society and Dr Stewart Davies, the Chair of the Bradford Sustainable Development Partnership to see how we can work together on this issue. This might include:

- A formal strategy for Sustainability and Circularity for Textiles.
- A scheme to incentivise innovation and investment in textile circularity.
- Research and development into new ways of making textiles.
- Support for new developments in fibre to fibre recycling and the design and construction of no end use garments.
- Research to limit synthetic fibre emissions, including investigation of the occupational health risks associated with synthetic fibres.
- The identification of actions that can be taken at a Government level which we might lobby on collectively, such as the cost of clothing to be explicitly considered in the calculation of benefit rates and the extension of the proposed virgin plastics tax to textile products containing less than 50% recycled PET, to stimulate the UK market for recycled fibres and Government-led collaboration among fashion retailers, water firms, and washing machine manufacturers to tackle microfibre pollution, holding product-producing companies ultimately responsible.

Amendment G

12.4 - Stopping genocide in Gaza

To be moved by: Councillor Rebecca Poulsen
To be seconded by: Councillor Mike Pollard

With the addition and deletion of appropriate words, the motion be amended to read as follows:-

This Council notes:

- The latest events in the Middle East are appalling and we all condemn the loss of innocent lives. Many UK residents of all faiths and none are distressed by the situation but the elected members of local Councils have no remit, no powers and no place in directly intervening in international affairs.
- As both sets of combatants in the conflict have no interest in the calls of petition signatories and elected members in the UK, such calls will have no bearing on the resolution of the conflict.
- There are currently major ongoing wars involving Sudan (c1,700,000 deaths), Myanmar (c 13,000 child deaths to date), Russia / Ukraine (c 500,000 deaths), and Yemen (c380,000 deaths) amongst others and in theory elected members could be contacted and / or pressured regarding debating or petitioning regarding these conflicts and again they would have no prospect of influencing the behaviour of any of the combatants.
- A number of MPs across the UK have been threatened, their offices have been attacked and even the homes of MPs and elected members have been threatened in relation to the Israel / Palestine conflict. Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State for Levelling Up, recently required Police protection from pro Palestine activists and Sir Keir Starmer, Leader of the Labour Party, was recently confronted and accused of facilitating genocide by pro Palestine protestors.
- Elected members throughout the country have recently received an email from “a fellow councillor”, “asking” for support in relation to a petition regarding the conflict in Gaza, whilst stating that the names of those who “have been invited to sign but chose not to” will be published “in the interest of accountability”, though the author is now rolling back on this.
- Politics is about “debate, not hate” and anyone, regardless of their background or political affiliation, should feel safe to become a councillor and represent their community.

- It is now clear that the wording of Paragraph 17.4 of Part 3A of the Constitution of the Council, which reads “Motions must be about matters for which the Council has a responsibility, or which affect the district” is no longer fit for purpose, as there are inevitably numerous incidents around the world which affect the emotions of residents including members, but about which this Council simply cannot influence the outcome.
- Public questions to Council have to relate to a matter that is the responsibility of the Council.
- The Council has a duty to take whatever measures practical, to ensure the safety of individual elected members and also concentrate on delivering the services which it provides.

That Council resolves:

- To request that the Chief Executive undertake an urgent review into what immediate measures the Council can take to increase understanding of the role and powers of elected members.
- To work with national partners such as the LGA to increase the understanding of the role and powers of local Councillors, amongst residents throughout the country.
- To encourage elected members to sign up to the LGA Campaign, “Debate not Hate”.
- The wording of Paragraph 17.4 of Part 3A of the Constitution of the Council, which reads “Motions must be about matters for which the Council has a responsibility, or which affect the district”, be tightened to read, “Motions must be about matters for which the Council has a responsibility, or which affect the district and where the Council can realistically influence the outcome”, to ensure that motions brought to Council, more accurately reflect the role and powers of elected members, thus reducing the potential for confusion amongst residents, preventing the unrealistic raising of hopes and subsequent inbound hostility to members, generated by matters clearly outside the Council’s spheres of influence.
- The wording of Paragraph 11.2.4 of Part 3A of the Constitution of the Council, which reads “Unless it is about a matter for which the Council has a responsibility or which affects the district” be tightened to read to “Unless it is about a matter for which the Council has a responsibility, or which affects the district and where the council can realistically influence the outcome”.
- To focus on the very serious challenges facing this Council and not by international affairs outside of its control, with Elected Members instead campaigning on overseas issues on an individual basis, or via joining an appropriate lobbying body.

Amendment H

12.4 - Stopping genocide in Gaza

To be moved by: Councillor Riaz Ahmed

To be seconded by: Councillor Brendan Stubbs

With the addition of words the motion be amended to read:

We stand in solidarity with all those residents, living in our district, who have family and friends in Gaza and the West bank in Palestine and in Israel. This Council deeply regrets and condemns the tragic loss of civilian life in both the Hamas terrorist attacks on the 7th of October and the ensuing indiscriminate bombardment of the Gaza strip by Israel.

This Council notes:

- That Bradford residents have family and friends in East Jerusalem, the West Bank, the Golan Heights, and Gaza which are illegally occupied by Israel; and that Gaza has been subject to 16 years of blockade.
- Amnesty International, UN rights, Human Rights watch, B'Tselem, all have called it Apartheid. Even a former head of Mosad (Tamir Pardo) has said Israel is imposing a form of Apartheid on the Palestinians.
- that the Israeli Government has been withholding essential resources from Gaza and what UN Experts have described as “destroying or damaging homes, hospitals, markets and UN Reliefs and Works Agency (UNRWA)” and that Amnesty International has “documented unlawful Israeli attacks, including indiscriminate attacks, which caused mass civilian casualties and must be investigated as war crimes.
- Save The Children have highlighted that the number of children reported killed in Gaza has surpassed the annual number of children killed across the world's conflict zones since 2019; many of these children are relatives and friends of Palestinian families, living in our district.
- under Article II of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, genocide is defined as certain acts “committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group” and that, under Article I, the UK has confirmed that genocide is a crime under international law which it undertakes to prevent and to collectively punish.
- the UK, at the UN Security Council on 18 October 2023, refused to vote for “humanitarian pauses” to deliver lifesaving aid to millions in Gaza; and Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, B'tselem. This has caused great distress and upset amongst many residents in Bradford. Who were under the impression that the UK stood for Peace, Justice and Human rights.
- that these horrific events have had a huge

effect on many Bradford citizens, in particular those with relatives and friends in the region.

- The huge response of many people in Bradford to the conflict, with many attending protests, both locally and nationally.

This Council believes:

- There can be no justification for the loss of innocent lives on both sides, and all atrocities committed against civilians must be condemned and investigated;
- that Hamas' appalling murder of civilians in Israel must be unequivocally condemned, and we continue to call for the safe, unconditional release of all hostages including innocent Palestinians detained in Israel;
- that the Israeli Government's indiscriminate killing of Palestinian civilians must be unequivocally condemned;
- we must not allow these tragic events to divide our communities in our district, and we understand and feel the pain of all people in Bradford. many of whom are from Palestine and have suffered extreme anxiety for the safety of their families and friends, and some, sadly, have suffered bereavements.
- all forms of racism, including antisemitism and Islamophobia have no place in our district and condemns any attacks on Jewish or Muslim people.
- all UK political leaders must call upon the Israeli Government to ensure food, water, medicine and electricity is provided to Gaza, that there must be clear humanitarian corridors, and that all actors must follow and be held accountable under international law;
- Sir Keir Starmer was wrong to say, in an interview with LBC radio, that Israel "does have that right" to withhold food, water and electricity from Gaza, and he should apologise and retract this statement supporting collective punishment;
- there is ultimately no military solution to this conflict, there never has been. Every effort must be made by the international community to make a two-state solution a reality, which requires a commitment to a formal peace process, an end to the illegal occupation and for all parties to follow international law, in order to bring peace to the region; A reason why so many Palestinian refugees/Asylum seekers, sought refuge in our district, which is a City of Sanctuary.
- That where Palestinians are forced to flee, they must not be permanently displaced from their homes, and calls on the UK Government to use all available pressure to ensure this.
- any state has a right to protect its citizens from attacks and terror, subject to international law.
- innocent Palestinians must not pay the price for Hamas atrocities.

That Council resolves to:

to assure Palestinians living in our district by calling upon the UK Government to:

- Join other Councils calling for an immediate humanitarian permanent ceasefire, in order to facilitate an intense period of diplomacy, bring humanitarian aid into Gaza, and provide an opportunity to seek the immediate release of all hostages.
- call for an immediate permanent ceasefire and to vote for this at the UN;
- Recognise Palestine as a sovereign state;
- cease all arms sales and military aid for the region; and
- make every effort to resume the peace process; work with community and religious groups, leaders, West Yorkshire Police to continue to tackle instances of antisemitism and Islamophobia and to support any families in Bradford district who may have family and friends directly affected by the conflict in Palestine.

Amendment I

12.5 - The Government has abdicated responsibility for public services

To be moved by: Councillor Mike Pollard
To be seconded by: Councillor Rebecca Poulsen

With the addition and deletion of appropriate words, the motion be amended to read as follows:-

This Council notes:

That the Chancellor's Autumn Statement included measures which will directly benefit many families, including children such as:-

- Reducing the main rate of class 1 employee NICs from 12% to 10% from 6 April 2024.
- Reducing the main rate of class 4 self-employed NICs from 9% to 8%, from 6 April 2024 and remove class 2 self-employed NICs.
- Increasing the national living wage by £1.02 (9.8%) to £11.44 an hour for eligible workers across the UK aged 21 and over from 1 April 2024.
- Increasing working age benefits by 6.7%, in line with September's inflation figure, from April 2024.
- Increasing the state pension by 8.5%, in line with annual earnings growth for May to July 2023, from April 2024.
- Increasing local housing allowance to the 30th percentile of local market rents from April 2024.
- Extending the Restart programme of employment support for the long-term unemployed for two years with expanded eligibility criteria.
- A swathe of measures to support the businesses which provide the incomes and taxation upon which families rely.
- The suggestion that the Autumn Statement contains no measures of benefit for families is thus disingenuous at best.
- The Council may wish to reflect on the effects for families and children, of its medium term failures to prioritise the proper funding and political leadership of Children's Services.

- Michael Gove MP the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, during a Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee session on 6 December 2023, recognised “that there were real difficulties and challenges in the sector, and accepted that the situation was “tight” for a number of Councils, but that Nottingham Council needing to issue a s114 notice was the fault of “systemic problems with leadership and governance”, not central government.
- A significant number of Councils of all political persuasions and sizes are, through no fault of their own, experiencing a tough financial environment, whilst a number of others are in dire financial straits due to catastrophic mismanagement and political leadership, with Bradford MDC falling squarely into the latter category.
- Bradford Council’s response to the Chancellor’s Autumn Statement was more of an abdication of responsibility for its failings and an election campaign address, intended to perpetuate the Labour Group’s false narrative that they are the victims of an uncaring government, rather than their own ineptitude and a missed opportunity to take responsibility for the mess.
- The Secretary of State has also confirmed that the local government sector is on course to see an above-inflation increase in core spending power next year, with £64bn being made available in 2024-25, up from £59.5bn.
- The Secretary of State has raised particular concerns about “profiteering” private equity firms that are running some children's homes described their operating model as “disturbing”, adding that the profits they were able to extract from the public purse in some cases were “excessive”.

That Council resolves to:

- Welcome the very significant increases the income of families and children contained within the Autumn Statement.
- To ensure that any request for Government to provide the additional funding that the Bradford Children and Families Trust needs to provide social care services for the district’s most vulnerable children this year, is augmented by the truth about how we got here.
- Continue to address the Council’s urgent budget situation through the emergency financial plan being developed.

Amendment J

12.6 - This Council calls for an immediate and lasting ceasefire in Gaza

To be moved by: Councillor Rebecca Poulsen
To be seconded by: Councillor Mike Pollard

With the addition and deletion of appropriate words, the motion be amended to read as follows:-

This Council notes:

- The latest events in the Middle East are appalling and we all condemn the loss of innocent lives. Many UK residents of all faiths and none are distressed by the situation but the elected members of local Councils have no remit, no powers and no place in directly intervening in international affairs.
- As both sets of combatants in the conflict have no interest in the calls of petition signatories and elected members in the UK, such calls will have no bearing on the resolution of the conflict.
- There are currently major ongoing wars involving Sudan (c1,700,000 deaths), Myanmar (c 13.000 child deaths to date), Russia / Ukraine (c 500,000 deaths), and Yemen (c380,000 deaths) amongst others and in theory elected members could be contacted and / or pressured regarding debating or petitioning regarding these conflicts and again they would have no prospect of influencing the behaviour of any of the combatants.
- A number of MPs across the UK have been threatened, their offices have been attacked and even the homes of MPs and elected members have been threatened in relation to the Israel / Palestine conflict. Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State for Levelling Up, recently required Police protection from pro Palestine activists and Sir Keir Starmer, Leader of the Labour Party, was recently confronted and accused of facilitating genocide by pro Palestine protestors.
- Elected members throughout the country have recently received an email from “a fellow councillor”, “asking” for support in relation to a petition regarding the conflict in Gaza, whilst stating that the names of those who “have been invited to sign but chose not to” will be published “in the interest of accountability”, though the author is now rolling back on this.
- Politics is about “debate, not hate” and anyone, regardless of their background or political affiliation, should feel safe to become a councillor and represent their community.

- It is now clear that the wording of Paragraph 17.4 of Part 3A of the Constitution of the Council, which reads “Motions must be about matters for which the Council has a responsibility, or which affect the district” is no longer fit for purpose, as there are inevitably numerous incidents around the world which affect the emotions of residents including members, but about which this Council simply cannot influence the outcome.
- Public questions to Council have to relate to a matter that is the responsibility of the Council.
- The Council has a duty to take whatever measures practical, to ensure the safety of individual elected members and also concentrate on delivering the services which it provides.

That Council resolves:

- To request that the Chief Executive undertake an urgent review into what immediate measures the Council can take to increase understanding of the role and powers of elected members.
- To work with national partners such as the LGA to increase the understanding of the role and powers of local Councillors, amongst residents throughout the country.
- To encourage elected members to sign up to the LGA Campaign, “Debate not Hate”.
- The wording of Paragraph 17.4 of Part 3A of the Constitution of the Council, which reads “Motions must be about matters for which the Council has a responsibility, or which affect the district”, be tightened to read, “Motions must be about matters for which the Council has a responsibility, or which affect the district and where the Council can realistically influence the outcome”, to ensure that motions brought to Council, more accurately reflect the role and powers of elected members, thus reducing the potential for confusion amongst residents, preventing the unrealistic raising of hopes and subsequent inbound hostility to members, generated by matters clearly outside the Council’s spheres of influence.
- The wording of Paragraph 11.2.4 of Part 3A of the Constitution of the Council, which reads “Unless it is about a matter for which the Council has a responsibility or which affects the district” be tightened to read to “Unless it is about a matter for which the Council has a responsibility, or which affects the district and where the council can realistically influence the outcome”.
- To focus on the very serious challenges facing this council and not by international affairs outside of its control, with Elected Members instead campaigning on overseas issues on an individual basis, or via joining an appropriate lobbying body.

Amendment K

12.6 - This Council calls for an immediate and lasting ceasefire in Gaza

To be moved by: Cllr Susan Hinchcliffe

To be seconded by: Cllr Imran Khan and Cllr Abdul Jabar

Bradford Council acknowledges the peaceful demonstrations that have been happening almost daily in Bradford and Keighley. We hear the calls of communities across the district and join with them in asking for an immediate and permanent ceasefire. We thank West Yorkshire Police for their responsible policing of these demonstrations.

Bradford district is a global place. People have friends and family in many parts of the world. What happens in Palestine and Israel matters to us. We are horrified by the events we see unfolding daily on our TV screens. We want a ceasefire which must include an immediate and lasting cessation of violence and indiscriminate attacks, plus the release and return of all hostages, and beyond that a lasting resolution that will deliver peace and a two-state solution.

We unequivocally condemn the collective punishment of Palestinian civilians by the Israeli Government which have meant 1.9 million people have been displaced. We unequivocally condemn the terrorist attacks by Hamas against civilians in Israel. Indiscriminate attacks against civilians is a direct violation of international law. We believe all crimes and war crimes should be prosecuted. We ask for a permanent end to the siege of Gaza with proper access to food, water, power and medical supplies being restored.

We are deeply concerned about the rise of Islamophobia and Antisemitism in our country. Bradford district has always taken a stand against Islamophobia, Antisemitism and all forms of racism. Hate will never be tolerated here. We are a place of peace where people come together, this conflict must not prise us apart.

We condemn the attacks on the two shops in Keighley as completely unacceptable and support the Police in holding a proper investigation to find those who committed these acts to bring them to justice.

Lasting ceasefire now.

This Council resolves to:

- Ask our District's MPs to call for a permanent lasting ceasefire, to end the bloodshed and to protect civilians, acknowledging that three of our district's MPs have already done so
- Work with all communities across Bradford district to make sure that our communities remain united and understanding of each other
- Work with partners including West Yorkshire Police to ensure people can continue to demonstrate in a peaceful and respectful manner, given that we live in a country that celebrates free speech.
- Work with the district's MPs at national and international level to demand:
 - An end to all violence in the region, all hostages released immediately, and a lasting peace.
 - Recognition that the United Nations Under-Secretary for Humanitarian Affairs has described the humanitarian situation facing those in Gaza as "apocalyptic"
 - Wholehearted support for the urgent letter by Secretary-General António Guterres urging the UN Security Council to help end the bloodshed through a lasting humanitarian ceasefire.
 - Recognition that calls for an immediate, lasting ceasefire is supported by 76% of the UK population according to polling by YouGov.
 - The UK Government supports the UN Secretary General in pushing for an immediate ceasefire.
 - Condemnation of the forced displacement of 1.9 million people from their homes in Gaza and the failure of the neighbouring countries and the international community to facilitate refuge.
 - The immediate recognition of an independent and viable State of Palestine as part of a two-state solution.
 - The UK Government work with partners and allies to secure the immediate recognition of an independent and viable State of Palestine internationally.
 - Immediate, urgent humanitarian aid to Gazans and funding to help them restore water, food, electricity and homes
 - Recognition that the lack of medical aid, supplies and assistance in Gaza is resulting in surgeries being performed without anaesthetic or painkillers.
 - Recognition that a lack of clean water in Gaza is contributing to the spread of waterborne diseases amongst the civilian population.
 - That the UK Government further increases its contributions to humanitarian aid for Gaza.
 - The UK Government takes steps to ensure that arms and military equipment either designed or built in whole or in part in the UK is not used in acts that amount to war crimes under international law.

- An end to the violence committed by illegal Israeli settlers against Palestinians in the West Bank
 - That the forcibly displaced Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank be supported in returning safely and freely to their homes.
 - The UK Government to implement bans on visas for illegal settlers involved in acts of violence against Palestinians.
 - Reaffirmation that Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories are illegal under international law
 - The UK Government brings a resolution to UN Security Council restating that Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories are illegal under international law.
 - Reaffirmation that those responsible for crimes and war crimes under international law must be held accountable through whatever means possible
 - Reaffirmation that the taking of civilian hostages is a war crime.
 - Proper funding to increase the capacity, credibility and reach of the International Criminal Court so that its role is strengthened in investigating international war crimes.
-
- Here in Bradford we commit to continuing to champion our status as a City of Sanctuary, a city where all are welcome and where we are proud of our global links.
 - We will always work with people of all faiths and none to make sure that Bradford district has a zero tolerance of Islamophobia and Antisemitism and all types of racism and discrimination.
 - We will work with partners including West Yorkshire Police to ensure people can continue to demonstrate in a peaceful and respectful manner.