

Decisions of the Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 20 October 2015

These decisions are published for information in
advance of the publication of the Minutes

DECISIONS:

1. PETITIONS

There were no petitions.

2. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

Resolved –

- (1) That the appointment of Tom Bright as a non-voting co-opted Teachers Secondary School representative to the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the 2015/16 Municipal Year be confirmed.
- (2) That Councillor Farley replace Councillor Ikram as an alternate on the Governance and Audit Committee.
- (3) That Councillors Akhtar and Lee replace Councillors Ikram and Mohammed as alternates on the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- (4) That Councillor Thornton replace Councillor Shafiq as a member on the Environment and Waste Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Councillor Hassan Khan replace Councillor Azam as an alternate.
- (5) That Councillor Shaw replace Councillor Whiteley on the Regulatory and Appeals Committee.

ACTION: *City Solicitor*

3. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE – MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2016-17 TO 2018-19 AND BEYOND

Resolved-

That the updated and revised Medium Term Financial Strategy at Appendix 1 to Executive Document "G" be approved.

ACTION: *Director of Finance*



4. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE – BRADFORD DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN – BRADFORD DISTRICT WASTE MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT (DPD) PUBLICATION DRAFT

Resolved-

- (1) That the Bradford District Waste Management Plan DPD Publication Draft be approved for the purposes of submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination pursuant to Section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.**
- (2) That prior to submission, the Publication Draft be issued for formal representations for a period of 6 weeks, in line with the Engagement Plan in Appendix 2 of Executive Document “T”.**
- (3) That the Assistant Director Planning Transportation and Highways in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder be authorised to make minor amendments of redrafting or of a similar nature as may be necessary prior to formal publication for representations of the Bradford District Waste Management Plan DPD Publication Draft.**
- (4) That delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director Planning Transportation and Highways in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder to make minor amendments of redrafting or of a similar nature before submitting the Bradford District Waste Management Plan DPD to the Secretary of State once the 6 week period for representations has been completed.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Regeneration

5. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE – BRADFORD DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN – BRADFORD CITY CENTRE AREA ACTION PLAN PUBLICATION DRAFT

Resolved-

- (1) That the Bradford City Centre AAP Publication Draft and the associated Engagement Plan be approved for the purposes of submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination pursuant to Section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.**
- (2) That prior to submission, the Publication Draft is issued for formal representations for a period of 6 weeks.**
- (3) That the Assistant Director Planning Transportation and Highways in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder be authorised to make minor amendments of redrafting or of a similar nature as may be necessary prior to formal publication for representations of the Bradford City Centre AAP Publication Draft.**
- (4) That delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director Planning Transportation and Highways in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder to make minor amendments of redrafting or of a similar nature before submitting the Bradford City Centre AAP to the Secretary of State once the 6 week period for representations has been completed.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Regeneration



6. **RECOMMENDATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE – BRADFORD DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN – SHIPLEY AND CANAL ROAD CORRIDOR AREA ACTION PLAN PUBLICATION DRAFT**

Resolved-

- (1) That the Shipley & Canal Road Corridor AAP Publication Draft and the associated Engagement Plan be approved for the purposes of submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination pursuant to Section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
- (2) That prior to submission, the Publication Draft is issued for formal representations for a period of 6 weeks.
- (3) That the Assistant Director Planning Transportation and Highways in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder be authorised to make minor amendments of redrafting or of a similar nature as may be necessary prior to formal publication for representations of the Shipley & Canal Road Corridor AAP Publication Draft.
- (4) That delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director Planning Transportation and Highways in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder to make minor amendments of redrafting or of a similar nature before submitting the Shipley & Canal Road Corridor AAP to the Secretary of State once the 6 week period for representations has been completed.

ACTION: *Strategic Director Regeneration*

7. **RECOMMENDATION FROM THE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – REVIEW OF PROTOCOLS AND THE MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT**

Resolved-

That paragraph 19.2 of the Protocol on Member-Officer Relations be amended so as to read:

The relevant political group leader and the Chief Executive will seek to resolve by mediation and conciliation any unresolved problem or breakdown in working relationships between members and officers. Where the problem or breakdown relates to the group leader's own relationships with officers the deputy group leader and the Chief Whip will work with the Chief Executive in place of the group leader.

ACTION: *City Solicitor*

8. **RECOMMENDATION FROM THE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW FOR A NEW LOCAL COUNCIL IN THE BINGLEY AREA**

Resolved-

That the Reorganisation Order attached as Appendix 4 to Document "I" be approved and that the City Solicitor be authorised to affix the Council's seal to the Order to bring it into effect.

ACTION: *City Solicitor*



9. **RECOMMENDATION FROM THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE/GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – INCORPORATION OF PROTOCOLS**

Resolved-

That the amendment to the Code of Conduct as set out at paragraph 2.12 of Standards Document “A”, namely to insert a new paragraph 23 into the Members’ Code of Conduct, be approved as follows:

Incorporation of Protocols

23 *The Protocol on Member-Officer Relations and the Protocol on Members’ Use of Council Resources (including use of e-mail and the internet) set out in the Council’s Constitution form part of this Code and any breach of the requirements of those Protocols by an elected member or voting co-opted member shall be treated as a breach of this Code.*

ACTION: *City Solicitor*

10. **RESPECT FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES**

Resolved-

Council reaffirms its support for the Armed Forces Community Covenant, which it signed in January 2012.

The Community Covenant encourages communities to support their local Armed Forces and promote awareness and understanding of the issues affecting the Armed Forces community. It seeks to ensure that no member of the Armed Forces is disadvantaged when accessing public services.

To facilitate this Bradford Council:

- Has a Councillor who holds the role of Armed Forces Champion to support members of the Armed Forces and ensure the Council lives up to its commitments to the Armed Forces
- Administers the Bradford Armed Forces Community Covenant Partnership containing representatives of services in Bradford, including the NHS, the Police and Fire Service, the Voluntary Sector and InCommunities
- Provides reports and progress updates on the Partnership to the Corporate Overview & Scrutiny Committee
- Organises the Bradford Armed Forces Day and supports volunteers organising Keighley Armed Forces Day
- Hosts an annual Veterans Lunch at Bradford City Hall
- Is reviewing its processes to make it easier to name new streets after local soldiers who have been killed in active duty
- Is working with the Royal British Legion to implement their 'Top Five Policy Changes' for Local Authorities, noting that we already prioritise members of the Armed Forces for social housing allocations
- Encourages Bradford and District businesses to sign a Corporate Covenant to affirm their own support for our Armed Forces

Council:

- Requests Councillors who receive reports of abuse or disadvantaged service men



and women to contact the Armed Forces Champion and/or the Partnership so the incidents can be fully addressed

- Requests that the Partnership considers ways of making itself and the work of the Armed Forces Champion better known to members of Bradford's Armed Forces community so they can be a first port of call in such incidents
- Requests public authorities in Bradford work with the Partnership to ensure they are aware of and responsive to the unique needs of Armed Forces members
- Invites the new Chief Executive to a future Partnership meeting to see first-hand the work being done to support our Armed Forces in Bradford

ACTION: *Chief Executive/Strategy and Engagement Officer*

11. EDUCATION – CREATING A WEST YORKSHIRE CHALLENGE

Resolved-

Council welcomes the Education Covenant for Bradford District and recent initiatives intended to begin the process of improving educational attainment in the District including engagement with all schools irrespective of what type of school they are.

The Council notes that the West Yorkshire Combined Authority has no powers over education and that the Government is reluctant to offer further local and accountable control over education as part of its devolution negotiations.

The Council resolves that:

- (1) Should the Government change its policy on the devolution of additional powers over education to West Yorkshire, this local authority will be at the forefront of joint efforts across the sub region to improve educational attainment and secure the necessary resources.
- (2) In the meantime this Council will keep working across Bradford District and beyond to accelerate improvement in educational attainment in all parts of the District. This will include sharing best practice with other local authorities in West Yorkshire with a view to making a joint ask to Government should common cause be established.

ACTION: *Strategic Director Children's Services*

12. BRADFORD EDUCATION COVENANT

Resolved-

This Council believes that:

- (1) Every child in the Bradford District should have the chance to realise their full potential and that working together with shared determination, purpose and ambition among schools, parents, students, business, public services and our communities we can achieve this.
- (2) That in the past improvements in the educational attainment of the district's young people have not gone far enough, fast enough and urgent and sustained action is required to drive up educational outcomes.



- (3) That securing better educational outcomes is a shared responsibility and won't be achieved unless everyone - the Council, schools, families, business and employers, communities, the Government and young people themselves are committed to playing their part.

The Council notes the recent publication of the draft Bradford Education Covenant which outlines the action the Council will take to help deliver improved educational attainment along with what we are asking of others to ensure that our young people get the best possible start in life. The draft Covenant is attached to this motion.

The Council resolves to:

- (1) Undertake a period of consultation with all interested parties on the draft Bradford Education Covenant.
- (2) Agree the Covenant at the December 2015 meeting of Full Council taking into account the results of the consultation.

ACTION: Strategic Director Children's Services

The Bradford Education Covenant

What the Council Will Offer

Keeping schools and education as a top priority

Improving schools and educational attainment so that all our children are able to achieve their potential will stay at the top of our priorities. We will support all Councillors to be effective champions of children, parents and learning and work with schools and parents to develop a vision for education as we pursue our ambition of making all our schools good by 2018.

Driving school improvement

The Council will work to put schools themselves at the heart of driving improvement. We will challenge schools and governing bodies and hold them to account for their performance taking rapid and robust action where there are issues that may be preventing a school from making progress, whatever type of school it may be.

Promoting learning from the very best

We already have some outstanding school leaders and teachers. We will work even harder with schools to identify, celebrate, promote and share best practice and support them to assist each other to accelerate improvement.

Attracting, retaining and developing the best school leaders and teachers

We will invest resources in attracting, retaining and developing the best school leaders, teachers and classroom assistants. We've already set aside £660,000 to do this. Part of this commitment will involve promoting Bradford District as an attractive career choice for the best teachers and school leaders. Government policy is to increase the numbers of Academies so we will be proactive in seeking out high quality academy sponsors to attract to the District

Providing school places by working together with government

The Council will work with the Government to ensure the District gets the money it needs to provide enough school places and keep schools well equipped. We've invested £700,000 to match the Government's money for extra school places but we need more money and more places.

Helping to make sure children are ready for school



Support will be there for families and children through the 'early years' helping to make sure children are ready for school and can do their very best at school from day one.

Supporting children and young people to be ready for work and life

Working closely with the business community, the University and colleges, the Council will provide real opportunities for skill development and jobs when young people leave school. We'll continue, in partnership, to deliver the innovative Industrial Centres of Excellence, each covering a different economic sector, linking schools to employers' needs and we'll support business to get the right young person, with the right skills through our Apprenticeships Hub.

Raising aspirations through cultural opportunities

Providing chances for students to benefit from enriched cultural learning by maximising the District's unique local learning opportunities and facilities - for example, with the National Media Museum and City of Film. This will provide inspiration to our young people and stimulate creativity.

The Bradford Education Covenant – Bradford Council's Education Ask

Parents

- Access a nursery place – 15 hours a week is free and it can make a big difference to your child's development.
- Involve yourself in your child's education, encourage and celebrate their learning.
- Make learning fun at home, read, count and play every day with your young child.
- Make sure your child is at school on time, attends regularly and doesn't take unauthorised absence.
- Support your child to get their homework in on time.
- Support your child to get involved in out of school activities.

Parents need to do this because their involvement in children's education from an early age has a significant effect on educational achievement, and continues to do so into adolescence and adulthood.

Children and young people

- Make the most of opportunities for learning at school and at home.
- Take responsibility for your own education, build your skills, ask questions, take notes in class and get your work in on time, discover your talents – it's your life, your future, your choice.

Children and young people need to do this because motivated and responsible pupils have a better chance of achieving success.

Schools

- Put yourselves at the heart of driving school improvement, working together in partnership, recognising that all types of school are part of a wider education system and need to share solutions and ideas to raise education attainment.
- Be active in the District's networks of schools, assist each other each other to challenge and address failure and support the lowest performing schools to learn from the highest performers.
- Share resources and expertise to invest in teaching, learning and facilities.
- Take timely and robust action to deal with performance, governance, attendance and any other issues in your school to provide the very best education experience and outcomes for your pupils.
- Support students to identify future careers opportunities.

All our schools need to do this to help us achieve our shared ambition of making sure every school is 'Good' by 2018.



Business and employers

- Support and become involved with an Industrial Centre of Excellence or Bradford Pathways.
- Encourage your employees to volunteer for the reading in schools project and to offer mentoring for young people at school.
- Provide meaningful work placements to your local schools and be an active partner in educating young people about potential careers.
- Provide apprenticeships for local young people.

Businesses need to do this because good education and good skills mean greater growth. In engineering alone the UK needs 1.82 million workers with relevant skills by 2022.

Communities

- Everyone in every community and neighbourhood to play their part in making a positive contribution to the growth, development and wellbeing of young people.
- Get involved for example as a volunteer reader.

We need our communities to do this because everyone shares in the social and economic benefits of improving education and everyone can play a part in helping to achieve it.

Government

- Provide the funding for the District to have enough places for all our children.
- Provide funding and support to help increase education achievement in the District, for example invest in a local programme to drive rapid and sustainable improvements.
- Support us to attract outstanding teachers, leaders and, in line with Government policy, Academy chains to the District.
- Trust local education partners and devolve more powers to local authorities to tackle failing schools and hold academies to account.

We need the government to do this because we have one of the fastest growing populations of young people in the country and will need extra places equivalent to two new secondary schools by 2018.

13. **REFUGEES**

Resolved-

This Council notes

- That since the conflict in Syria began over 4 million people have been displaced.**
- That Bradford was the first local authority in the UK to agree the settlement of Syrian refugees as part of the Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme for Syria and has resettled 106 Syrian refugees representing a significant proportion of all such refugees resettled in the UK under the scheme.**
- The successful and outstanding partnership working between the Council, Horton Housing Association and others to support individuals and families to integrate and access educational and employment opportunities.**
- That the Prime Minister has announced that the UK will accept 20,000 refugees from Syria over the next 5 years and that Britain's £12billion foreign aid budget will be used towards Local Authorities expenses related to these refugees.**



- (e) That Bradford provides ongoing support to the Home Office with the Gateway Protection Programme (GPP) and has resettled hundreds of refugees from the Middle East, Africa and parts of Asia who are fleeing humanitarian crises.
- (f) That the Council has already made clear that it is willing to play its part in resettling more Syrian refugees and has agreed an initial intake of 50 during the next few weeks.
- (g) The Council resolves that, as a City of Sanctuary, Bradford District will continue to offer assistance and provide sanctuary to people fleeing conflict and will seek to resettle as many additional Syrian refugees as resources including housing, health services and school places permit.

ACTION: *Chief Executive*

14. TRADE UNION BILL

Resolved-

This Council notes that Trade unions have been at the forefront of improving social conditions and tackling exploitation in this District and across the UK and have led the way in campaigning for the establishment of the NHS, for universal education and childcare provision, for safe working and living conditions, for equality legislation and against racism.

The Council believes that:

- i The Trade Union Bill will attempt to silence the voice of workers whilst restricting the ability of this Council to engage in effective industrial practices with its workforce and their representatives.
- ii Strikes are a last resort but the Government's new requirement of a minimum 50% turnout amongst members entitled to vote and a further 40% yes vote threshold (i.e. 80% of those who vote) in 'important public services' are an attempt to silence working people.
- iii The right to strike is under threat and draconian measures seeking the names of pickets and restrictions on social media usage are a fundamental attack on human rights.
- iv Facility time arrangements for local union representatives and the deductions of subscriptions through payroll are matters between employers and recognised unions in the public sector and are the basis for good industrial relations. It is counterproductive for the Government to stop or restrict these arrangements.
- v Allowing the use of agency workers to break strike action could lead to staff carrying out work they are not trained for and potentially to unsafe workplaces and services.
- vi The attacks on Trade Unions' political funds are a shabby attempt to undermine their public campaigning voice and the traditional relationship between many trade unions and the Labour Party, they are profoundly undemocratic and deserve our condemnation.



The Council resolves to

- (1) Campaign against the Bill;
- (2) Promote the positive role that trade unions play in society and the economy;
- (3) Enter a submission to the Parliamentary Trade Union Bill Committee highlighting the damaging impact the Bill will have on industrial relations locally;
- (4) Write to the Secretary of State for Business Innovation and Science confirming the Council's unequivocal opposition to the Bill;
- (5) Write to all employees of the Council informing them of the Council's opposition.

ACTION: *Chief Executive*

15. **COUNCIL STANDING ORDERS – REPORT OF THE LEADER OF COUNCIL**

Under Standing Order 17 this motion was referred to the Governance and Audit Committee.

ACTION: *City Solicitor*

16. **WEST YORKSHIRE PENSION FUND DISINVESTMENT FROM THE FOSSIL FUEL INDUSTRY**

Resolved-

- (1) This Council recognises that, in financial terms, the West Yorkshire Pension Fund (WYPF) is exceptionally well-managed by Bradford Council and appreciates the professionalism and dedication of the councillors and officers involved.
- (2) This Council notes:
 - (a) The worldwide movement to divest from fossil fuels including calls for local authority pension funds to divest.
 - (b) That the first duty of the West Yorkshire Pension Fund is to pay the staff their pension benefits when they retire.
 - (c) The concerns expressed by the public sector trade union Unison that, while a lower carbon world is desirable, pension fund divestment from fossil fuels and the relocation of the funds containing the pensions of millions of workers could take many years, incur the funds' considerable expense and create economic uncertainty affecting the cash flow that pays public sector pensions.

This Council therefore requests that the Governance and Audit Committee and the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee complete a joint review of the scale of the WYPF's investment in the fossil fuel sector and the implications for the Pension Fund, the District and its current and retired public sector workers of any programme of divestment and report back to Council within six months.

ACTION: *Director of Finance/Director of the West Yorkshire Pension Fund/ City Solicitor (reference to Committees)*



17. **DEVOLUTION**

In accordance with Council Minute 35 (2015/16) a debate took place on this item. There was no resolution.

18. **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL – SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES FOR EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS**

Resolved-

That the recommendations as set out in the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel attached as an appendix to Document “J” be approved.

ACTION: *City Solicitor*

19. **APPOINTMENT TO THE POST OF CITY SOLICITOR**

Resolved-

- (1) **That the appointment of Dermot Pearson as Interim City Solicitor for up to 6 months or until such time as an appointment is made to the vacant position of City Solicitor whichever is the earlier be approved.**
- (2) **That the proposal to appoint to the position of Interim City Solicitor on the salary package as detailed and set out in the Council’s Pay Policy Statement 2015/16 be confirmed.**
- (3) **That the appointment to the vacant City Solicitor post be approved.**
- (4) **That the responsibility to appoint to the position of City Solicitor be delegated to an Appointments Panel. The Panel should comprise 3 Elected Members, 2 Labour and 1 Conservative, with the memberships to be on the nomination of the Leader of Council and the Leader of the Conservative Group and shall include at least one member of Executive.**

ACTION: *Director of Human Resources*

FROM: Suzan Hemingway
City Solicitor
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

Committee Secretariat Contact: Adrian Tumber – 01274 432435
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