

## Decisions of the Council on Tuesday, 16 January 2018

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

### Decisions

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

There were no petitions.

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

There were no changes to committee memberships.

**11. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEES -  
RECOMMENDATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE - COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION  
SCHEME FOR 2018/19**

**Resolved –**

- (1) That the outcome of the public consultation as set out in appendix 1 to Executive Document “AN” was considered and noted.**
- (2) That Members had due regard to their responsibilities under the Public Sector Equality Duty and considered the potential impacts of the proposed changes on working age claimants as set out in the Equality Impact Assessment at appendix 3 to Executive Document “AN”.**
- (3) That the following amendments to the current Council Tax Reduction (CTR) scheme are adopted and take effect from 1 April 2018:  
(i) Set the maximum CTR for all working age recipients at 70% of a Band A property for all claimants  
(ii) Limit entitlement of CTR to those that qualify for £4.00 or more per week  
(iii) Remove the Second Adult Rebate  
(iv) Introduce a £1 Minimum Change threshold  
(v) Assess self-employed in receipt of Universal Credit on actual income for the first 12 months of self-employment, and on actual income or the National Living Wage, whichever is greater, thereafter**
- (4) That the CTR discretionary support scheme as set out in Appendix 4 to Executive Document “AN” be adopted from 1 April 2018.**

***ACTION: Strategic Director Corporate Services***

## 12. SINGLE USE PLASTICS

**Resolved –**

**Bradford Council notes that approximately 12 million tonnes of plastic waste ends up in the seas each year; that this form of plastic pollution is on course to increase ten-fold in the next decade; and that this build-up of plastics in our oceans poses serious risks to marine life and human health.**

**Council notes that ‘single use plastics’ (SUPs) such as packaging, bags, bottles and straws makes up half the 300 million tonnes of plastic produced annually in the world; that the government is consulting on ways to discourage the use of these types of materials; and that the recent introduction of the 5p plastic bag charge has already reduced the use of these bags in England by 85%.**

**Council notes this is a global issue which requires concerted high-level national and international action to deliver the necessary global impact. It is right that we also make efforts locally and individually to lessen our negative impact on the environment.**

**Council therefore resolves to:**

- **Continue our successful work with residents to improve overall recycling rates. As a district we have seen a 46% increase in kerbside recycling since 2013.**
- **Reduce our use of single use plastic when there are practical and equally affordable alternatives.**
- **Ask Environment Scrutiny to look at this matter in more depth cross party and make recommendations.**
- **Call on government to be more ambitious in its target to eradicate avoidable plastic waste in the UK and to enable the more widespread use of plastic-free alternatives.**
- **Call on the Government to introduce legislative powers to back the current “A Green Future Plan”.**

***ACTION: Strategic Director Corporate Services/ Strategic Director Place/City Solicitor (Scrutiny Lead for Environment and Waste Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee)***

## 12. MENINGITIS C VACCINATION PROGRAMME

**Resolved –**

**Council conveys its sympathies and best wishes for the future, to the family of Kia Gott, the young child whose plight due to infection with Meningitis C, has upset and concerned many people throughout the country.**

**Council notes:**

- **That prior to the introduction of the Men C Vaccine in 1999, there were approximately 1,000 cases of Meningitis C per annum resulting in 70-80**

deaths.

- In a twelve month period in 2015/16, only 1 child under 12 months contracted the disease, with this increasing to 4 in 2016/17, a massive increase in percentage terms.

**Council resolves to:**

**Request that the Chief Executive write to Dr Mary Ramsay, the Head of Immunisation at Public Health England and Professor Andrew Pollard, Chairman of the Joint Committee of Vaccination and Immunisation, outlining the Council's concerns and requesting that the decision to withdraw the Men C Vaccine for babies at 12 weeks be revisited as a matter of urgency.**

***ACTION: Chief Executive***

## 12. **QUEENSBURY TUNNEL**

**Resolved –**

**Council welcomes the efforts of the Queensbury Tunnel Society and Sustrans in developing proposals for the tunnel to be re-opened as a cycle and walking route.**

**Council notes the plans from the Department for Transport and Highways England's Historical Railways Estate to permanently close the tunnel.**

**Council resolves to:**

- (1) Engage with the Queensbury Tunnel Society, Sustrans and other interested parties in exploring the options for the tunnel.**
- (2) Ask the Chief Executive to investigate the feasibility of Bradford Council taking ownership of the tunnel so as to secure the option of it being reopened as a cycle route.**
- (3) Facilitate discussions about the tunnel with the Department for Transport, the Historic Railways Estate and potential funders.**
- (4) Request an early report to Executive setting out these actions.**

***ACTION: Chief Executive/Strategic Director Place***

12. **ENCOURAGING STEM OPPORTUNITIES IN THE BRADFORD DISTRICT**

**Resolved –**

**This Council notes:**

- **Education in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) can give young people high-quality career opportunities across a number of sectors**
- **Demand for suitably qualified workers to fill STEM jobs is growing in the UK and globally**
- **Schools, colleges and universities take a lead in teaching formal qualifications, but STEM knowledge and skills can also be supported and developed outside formal education**

**This Council resolves to ask the Leader to appoint a Councillor to be STEM Champion to identify new opportunities for young people and businesses to benefit from STEM learning, to include:**

- **Working with the West Yorkshire STEM Ambassador Hub to encourage more people to sign up as STEM Ambassadors who volunteer to inspire the next generation in Bradford District schools**
- **Working with the council’s public, private and voluntary sector partners to build support for STEM, including building links between businesses and schools to benefit young people**
- **Celebrating excellence in STEM so that good practice in our district is shared and acknowledged**

***ACTION: Leader of Council/Strategic Director Children’s Services***

12. **BRADFORD DISTRICT CALLS ON GOVERNMENT FOR FUNDING TO MATCH NEEDS**

**Resolved –**

**This Council notes:**

- **Due to cuts in government funding, this council has had to make cuts of £256m since 2010, with further cuts to come as the government reduces the revenue support grant for Bradford District down to zero by 2020.**
- **The Department for Communities and Local Government has just announced a consultation on the future of council funding with the announcement that by 2020/2021 75% of business rates will be retained by councils rather than the 100% previously stated. The consultation closes on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018.**
- **Named “Fair Funding Review” the consultation is seeking to establish**

the cost drivers which will determine how much each local authority receives. It includes the question of whether rurality should be included in the relative needs assessment as a common cost driver, which provides additional funding to authorities with rural populations.

**Council will:**

- **Make representations to the “Fair Funding Review” emphasising that the main drivers for allocation of any future funding should be the needs of Looked After Children, the Elderly population and economic deprivation.**
- **Question the Government’s definition of “rural” which is currently based on concentrated “super sparsity”. Emphasise that Bradford’s huge diversity - from urban centres to small rural villages should be encompassed by any rural definition. We are two thirds rural and proud of our rural landscapes.**
- **Lobby with similarly effected Local Authorities such as Calderdale and Kirklees who also have a high proportion of rural communities.**
- **Brief all the district’s MPs on the “Fair Funding Review” and ask them to make representations on our behalf.**

***ACTION: Chief Executive/Strategic Director Corporate Services***

## 12. **LGBT+ HISTORY MONTH IN BRADFORD**

**Resolved –**

**This Council notes:**

- **LGBT+ History Month is marked every February in the UK and is designed to recognise the invaluable contributions LGBT+ people have made to society.**
- **2017 saw the LGBT History Month Programme in Bradford include over 130 events, thought to be the most active district in the UK.**
- **The important contribution LGBT History Month will make in raising awareness and fighting intolerance and prejudice locally, regionally and nationally.**
- **The importance of working to make educational and other institutions safe spaces for all LGBT communities and to promote the welfare of LGBT people, by ensuring that the education system recognises and enables LGBT people to achieve their full potential, so they contribute fully to society and lead fulfilled lives, which in turn benefits society as a whole;**
- **The 2018 LGBT+ History Month will focus on the theme of ‘Geography: Mapping the world’ and will include a broad range of partners across the district.**

- In 2017 Bradford became the largest authority in the UK to recognise the status of non-binary people on all council related forms.
- That many LGBT+ people face harassment or even violence, while young LGBT+ people are more likely to suffer poor mental health and attempt suicide.
- Being LGBT+ is still criminalised in 72 countries around the world.

This Council resolves to:

- Fully support the LGBT+ History Month 2018 programme in Bradford District by encouraging partner organisations and wider public to attend events
- Reaffirm our commitment to LGBT+ rights in this district and throughout the world.
- Support LGBT History Month being added to the national curriculum and that radical policy changes in the school curriculum would be implemented to better reflect LGBT+ issues;
- Support the 'Justice for Chechnya' campaign throughout history month in order to encourage the UK Government to put pressure on Russian authorities to stop the murder, torture and detention of gay and bisexual men in Chechnya.
- Ensure all council policies are LGBT+ inclusive
- Fight against inequality and injustice wherever it is seen and recognise that a key part of this battle is in raising awareness and levels of education on these issues and this is why initiatives such as LGBT+ History Month are so important and should be encouraged throughout Bradford District.

**ACTION:** *Chief Executive/all Strategic Directors*

## 12. MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE (MND) CHARTER

Resolved –

Bradford Council notes that the Motor Neurone disease charter is made up of 5 points:

1. The right to an early diagnosis and information
2. The right to access quality care and treatment
3. The right to be treated as individuals and with dignity and respect

4. The right to maximise their quality of life
5. Carers of people with MND have a right to be valued, respected, listened to and supported.

**This Council agrees:**

- To adopt the Motor Neurone Disease Charter as outlined above and promote it widely in order to raise awareness of MND and what good care looks like for those living with this terrible disease. It has impacted on valued colleagues in this Council Chamber and we have all therefore seen its devastating effects.
- That the above points should be our aim for all people and their carers in Bradford District who have challenging health conditions and we will work with our partners to achieve these.

***ACTION: Strategic Director Health and Wellbeing***

13. **THE BRADFORD EDUCATION COVENANT**

**Resolved –**

- (1) That the progress of the work be endorsed.
- (2) That the work of our community partners in delivering work with Bradford children and young people undertaken as part of the Covenant be commended.
- (3) That members of Council promote the Education Covenant in their networks.

***ACTION: Strategic Director Children's Services***

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