

Decisions of the Council on Tuesday, 13 July 2021

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

Decisions

6. **PETITIONS (Standing Order 11)**
Former Keighley College land keep as green space Keighley Central
- Resolved -**
- That the petition be referred to the Executive.
- ACTION:** *City Solicitor / Strategic Director Corporate Resources*

8. **MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND JOINT COMMITTEES (Standing Order 4)**
Standards Committee
- Resolved –**
- That Councillor Lal replaces Councillor Dodds as Chair of the Standards Committee and that Councillor Ibrar Hussain be added as a Member.
- ACTION:** *City Solicitor*

11. **RECOMMENDATION FROM GOVERNANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE - ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2020/2021**
Resolved –
- That the Annual Treasury Management Report 2020/2021 (Governance and Audit Committee Document “A”) be adopted.
- ACTION:** *Director of Finance*
- (David Willis – 01274 432361)
(Lynsey Simenton – 07582 102779)

12. **CULTURE AT THE HEART OF GROWTH**
Resolved –

Council notes:

- Culture provides a significant social and economic contribution to the life of our district. From grassroots arts groups through to multibillion

pound industries, arts and culture is a vital part of our daily lives and our economy.

- **Culture supports livelihoods. The arts and culture industry has grown £390 million in one year to contribute £10.8 billion per year to the national economy, £2.8 billion a year to the Treasury through taxation and generating a further £23 billion and 363,700 jobs a year.**
- **Culture funding delivers a substantial return on investment – our investment in Culture since 2019 when we committed to bidding has levered in £5,131,928 into the Bradford district and if the bid is successful it is expected to provide a 25 to 1 return based on previous winners.**
- **Winning the UK City of Culture bid is projected to: bring 1.1m additional visitors to the district in 2025; including the programme, capital investment and tourism the economic impact in the 2025 year alone will be up to £250m; and deliver an increase of 3,000 jobs in the cultural and creative industries by 2030.**
- **The City of Culture designation has become a hugely significant prize for cities and is recognised for the transformational impact of the year but also the legacy. The position and profile is felt not just nationally but internationally.**
- **Culture builds communities. It is a vital part of our daily lives, it celebrates what makes us human, supports a shared experience and enhances our connection with others.**
- **Culture and art is a means of personal transformation – it raises aspirations, teaches us new skills, empathy and understanding and, for young people in particular, it deepens their education and broadens their horizons.**
- **As the UK’s sixth largest city and one of the youngest cities in Europe with around a quarter of our population aged under 16, Bradford is perfectly placed to be a ground breaking City of Culture creating high-calibre new opportunities for the next generation.**
- **From homegrown arts organisations to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Saltaire, to landmark theatres and internationally acclaimed events, we have a thriving arts scene. But our district has huge untapped potential with masses of talent that needs the investment to match, so to achieve City of Culture accreditation will be a game changer with a lasting legacy for the district.**

- **Our celebrated cultural assets across the district are loved by residents and visitors alike. From the Bronte Parsonage in Haworth to the Alhambra Theatre in the city centre, from Kings Hall in Ilkley to Cliffe Castle in Keighley and all points in between. We want to show them off to the world.**

This Council:

- **Wholeheartedly supports the district’s 2025 UK City of Culture bid and its ambitious programme to deliver a positive lasting legacy for people and businesses.**
- **Thanks the arts and culture organisations of all sizes across the district who are making a difference in our communities and are at the heart of the exciting UK City of Culture bid.**
- **Confirms our commitment to put culture at the heart of our district’s regeneration and to support inclusive economic growth so that as many people as possible can contribute and share in the benefits.**
- **To go all out to attract volunteers from all communities across the district to contribute, and exchange and share new experiences, to foster increased community pride and cohesion, whilst benefiting every corner of the district.**
- **To motivate and assist the youthful population of the district and fully integrate / overlap the development of young people using the district’s expertise at delivering innovations in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics, through partnerships involving the Council, educational establishments, local communities and anyone else who wishes to make a positive contribution, to deliver added value for their lives ahead, during and long beyond the district’s involvement in the City of Culture, also providing an economic legacy until well into the future.**
- **To identify untapped potential and open up the district’s hidden gems to the world.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Place

13. CORPORATE RESPONSE TO THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC Resolved –

Council notes:

- the recent pandemic and the effects it has had on the lives, health and wellbeing of the citizens of the Bradford district and looks forward to the strongest possible recovery.
- Council repeats its thanks for the work of all its officers and staff, partner organisations and volunteers in dealing with the unprecedented situation.
- Council believes that we should review the district's response to the pandemic to learn what went well, and what less so, in order to be prepared for any similar threats in the future, and to identify residual problems and long term effects needing to be addressed as we move out of the current crisis.
- Council instructs the Health and Wellbeing Board to commission such a review, focusing on areas where the council and partners had some freedom to make choices, but including the results of external factors such as legislation.
- We will then send the findings from our district to the national inquiry into the country's Covid response as and when the Government starts the exercise.

ACTION: Director of Public Health / Chief Executive / City Solicitor (Referral to Health & Wellbeing Board)

14. **CREATING AN ACCESSIBLE FOOTPATH NETWORK** Resolved –

- This Council notes the huge benefit to the health of residents from being able to access open spaces and fresh air.
- This Council notes the £250,000 investment in maintaining our open and green spaces through the pandemic in the last budget and the ongoing work improving the accessibility of such spaces across the district.
- This Council believes the District should be a place where people can choose to walk and that walking should be easy, enjoyable and accessible to everyone.
- This Council recommits to removing the barriers that currently prevent many people from enjoying the benefits of walking and to improving the accessibility of the footpath network for people with limited mobility and for wheelchair users.

The Council instructs the Strategic Director of Place to:

- Work towards ensuring that footpaths, access land and managed green spaces in its ownership are as accessible as possible, and report progress annually to the Local Access Forum and Regeneration & Environment Scrutiny Committee.

- Ensure that the work done to improve accessibility is done appropriately to the environment, avoiding excessive “urbanisation” of the countryside.
- Via the Local Access Forum, work with other organisations such as the Disabled Ramblers Association and the Ramblers Association to support their work in support of the British Standard 5709:2006 on Gaps, Gates and Stiles which requires the least restrictive option for all potential users, including people with disabilities or limited mobility, where a path crosses a boundary and specifies high-quality standards where barriers are justified.

ACTION: Strategic Director Place

15. **CLEAN AIR ZONE**
Resolved –

Council notes that:

- The Government published its national Clean Air Strategy in 2019. This commits the UK to setting some air pollution goals more ambitious than the EU and reducing particulate matter emissions by 46% by 2030.
- The piece of legislation entitled [Environment Act 1995 \(City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council\) Air Quality Direction 2020 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#) legally directs Bradford Council to provide a charging Clean Air Zone to improve air quality.
- We all want cleaner air across the district.
- The Clean Air Zone Framework issued by the Department for Transport clearly states “Clean Air Zone proposals are not required to include a charging zone”, unless otherwise directed by Government, as Bradford has been.
- The Clean Air Zone Framework is voluntary code for those local authorities who are not operating under a Government directive. Given our poor air quality and its impact on our children’s health, DEFRA has issued a Government directive compelling Bradford to introduce a charging Clean Air Zone.
- Research has shown that air pollution can affect children before they’re even born. Currently more than one in five children in Bradford has a wheezing disorder.

- The Government directive from the Minister states that having considered all the data of the district the following action now needs to be taken. The following is the exact wording on the legal order:
**“Class C Charging Clean Air Zone
 To be implemented as soon as possible and at least in time to bring forward compliance to 2022”**
- Government has directed that Bradford will have a Class C CAZ which means that residents’ privately owned vehicles will not be subject to any charge.
- Bradford has secured the biggest funding deal of any local authority in the country from Government and we are therefore providing the most generous support packages for businesses upgrading to cleaner, CAZ-compliant vehicles. The Government’s CAZ Framework is clear that daily charges should be set at a level to encourage vehicle owners to upgrade their vehicles to CAZ standard.
- The Council has consulted widely with residents, businesses and other organisations on the CAZ through a variety of channels, including a series of in person events, online events, question and answer sessions, written submissions, a dedicated webpage and a wider publicity campaign.
- During Covid working patterns have changed nationally with much more home working and this is a pattern that is likely to continue in the future, however in November 2020 Bradford traffic levels went back to 100% of what they were pre-COVID.

Council resolves:

- To comply with the law as laid out in the legal order directed by Government which is entitled, “[Environment Act 1995 \(City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council\) Air Quality Direction 2020 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/90412/environment-act-1995-city-of-bradford-metropolitan-district-council-air-quality-direction-2020.pdf) signed by Environment Minister Rebecca Pow and continue to work with businesses who wish to upgrade their vehicles and take advantage of the incentives offered.
- To publish the current air quality monitoring data and how it compares with the figures taken in 2018 and publish the target figures.
- To continue to listen to the concerns of businesses, hauliers, taxi drivers and residents.
- To continue to work with Leeds, Bath, Portsmouth, Nottingham, Sheffield, Southampton, Birmingham and others to learn lessons and seek, as well as provide, advice.

- To back the Labour Group’s request of Government to permit Bradford to reduce the charge for non-compliant taxis to £7 instead of the planned £12.50 (the government’s own charge per vehicle is included in this).
- To invite the author of the legal order, Environment Minister Rebecca Pow, to visit Bradford district once the restrictions ease so that she can talk to councillors of all parties about the directive for the Clean Air Zone.

ACTION: Strategic Director Place / Chief Executive (Invitation to the Environment Minister)

16. **SUPPORT OUR LOCAL NHS HEROES**
Resolved –

Council notes that:

- The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the tremendous work of council and NHS staff. They all deserve to be properly and fairly rewarded for their efforts.
- Airedale NHS Foundation Trust created a wholly-owned subsidiary, AGH Solutions (AGHS), in 2018. Workers who were transferred over from the Trust into AGHS in 2018 remain on the NHS “Agenda For Change” (AFC) contract, while many new starters and indeed all staff (including those who were TUPED) that register on Bank (i.e. overtime shifts), are paid on the lower AGHS rates, despite doing the same job:

Example Pay Comparison (2020 - 2021)	
AGHS Grade A Pay	NHS Band 2
Basic Pay: £9.00ph	Basic Pay: £9.89ph
Saturday Pay: £9.00ph	Saturday Pay: £14.14ph
Sunday Pay: £9.00ph	Sunday Pay: £18.29ph

- The GMB trade union entered into a formal dispute over pay, terms and conditions with AGHS in November 2020, after members repeatedly voted to reject the pay proposals submitted by AGHS, all of which have been significantly less than the NHS pay rates. Members are demanding that AGHS align all staff with the NHS AFC contract.

Council believes that:

- Equal work deserves equal pay.

- **No one working in the NHS should receive less than the minimum pay, terms and conditions set out in the NHS AFC contract.**
- **The GMB demand for harmonisation is reasonable and fair.**

Council resolves to:

- **Publicly support the workers in their campaign at Airedale Hospital to achieve harmonisation between AGHS and NHS AFC pay, terms and conditions.**
- **Write to the board of directors of both AGHS and Airedale NHS Foundation Trust, informing them of our support for the staff in their campaign for equal pay and calling on them to agree to its reasonable and fair demands.**
- **Urge everyone to get round the table to talk to resolve this inequality.**
- **Refer the matter to Health & Social Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee.**

ACTION: Chief Executive (write to AGHS & Airedale NHS Foundation Trust) / City Solicitor (referral to Health & Social Care O&S Committee)

17. END FIRE AND REHIRE

Resolved:

This council notes:

- **The increased use by employers in the UK of fire and rehire tactics, forcing their staff to accept worse terms/conditions, leaving many having to work longer hours and for lower pay.**
- **That while the prime minister has called the practice “unacceptable” he has continually refused to take action to outlaw the practice, raising concerns that he will not intervene in this race to the bottom by some employers.**

This council therefore believes actions are required to ensure local residents are protected against such unscrupulous employers and agrees to:

- **Ask the Leader of the Council to write to the Prime Minister demanding he outlaw fire and rehire and act now to keep his promise to local residents to protect their employment terms and conditions.**

ACTION: Leader of Council / Chief Executive

19. FUNDING FOR A REGENERATION OPPORTUNITY, SQUIRE LANE AND THE 2025 CITY OF CULTURE BID

Recommended –

That recommendation B, C and D as set out in Not for Publication Document “E” be approved.

ACTION: Director of Finance

(Chris Chapman – 01274 433656)

FROM: Parveen Akhtar
City Solicitor
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

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