

**Department of Corporate Resources**

Members of Council

**Committee Secretariat**

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Your Ref: GC/Council

Date: 4 July 2022

Dear Councillor,

**MEETING OF COUNCIL – TUESDAY, 12 JULY 2022**

You are requested to attend the meeting of the Council to be held in the Council Chamber - City Hall, Bradford, on Tuesday, 12 July 2022 at 4.00 pm.

The agenda for the meeting is set out overleaf.

Yours sincerely



Bryn Roberts  
Interim City Solicitor

**Notes:**

- A webcast of the meeting will be available to view live on the Council's website at <https://bradford.public-i.tv/core/portal/home> and later as a recording.
- The taking of photographs, filming and sound recording of the meeting is allowed except if Councillors vote to exclude the public to discuss confidential matters covered by Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. Recording activity should be respectful to the conduct of the meeting and behaviour that disrupts the meeting (such as oral commentary) will not be permitted.
- Anyone attending the meeting who wishes to record or film the meeting's proceedings is advised to liaise with the Agenda Contact who will provide guidance and ensure that any necessary arrangements are in place. Those present at the meeting should be aware that they may be filmed or sound recorded.
- The Fire Bell and Evacuation Procedure requires people to leave the building in an orderly fashion by the nearest exit, should the fire alarm sound. No one will be allowed to stay or return until the building has been checked.

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

## **AGENDA**

### **A. PROCEDURAL ITEMS**

#### **1. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

(Members Code of Conduct – Part 4A of the Constitution)

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

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

**Notes:**

*(1) Members must consider their interests, and act according to the following:*

<b>Type of Interest</b>	<b>You must:</b>
<i>Disclosable Pecuniary Interests</i>	<i>Disclose the interest; not participate in the discussion or vote; and leave the meeting <u>unless</u> you have a dispensation.</i>

*Other Registrable Interests (Directly Related)*  
**OR**  
*Non-Registrable Interests (Directly Related)*

*Disclose the interest; speak on the item only if the public are also allowed to speak but otherwise not participate in the discussion or vote; and leave the meeting unless you have a dispensation.*

*Other Registrable Interests (Affects)*  
**OR**  
*Non-Registrable Interests (Affects)*

*Disclose the interest; remain in the meeting, participate and vote unless the matter affects the financial interest or well-being*

*(a) to a greater extent than it affects the financial interests of a majority of inhabitants of the affected ward, and  
(b) a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest;  
in which case speak on the item only if the public are also allowed to speak but otherwise not do not participate in the discussion or vote; and leave the meeting unless you have a dispensation.*

*(2) Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to the Member concerned or their spouse/partner.*

*(3) Members in arrears of Council Tax by more than two months must not vote in decisions on, or which might affect, budget calculations, and must disclose at the meeting that this restriction applies to them. A failure to comply with these requirements is a criminal offence under section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.*

*(4) Officers must disclose interests in accordance with Council Standing Order 44.*

## **2. MINUTES**

**Recommended** – That the minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 17 May 2022 be signed as a correct record (previously circulated).

(Guy Close – 07811 503906)

## **3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive any apologies for absence.

(Guy Close – 07811 503906)

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

*(To be circulated before the meeting).*

**5. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS**

(Access to Information Procedure Rules – Part 3B of the Constitution)

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

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

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

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

(Guy Close – 07811 503906)

**B. BUSINESS ITEMS**

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

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

- (i) Traffic calming measures on Vine Terrace West – Clayton and Fairweather Ward.

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

(Farzana Mughal – 07811 504164)

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

The following public question has been received from Robert Hargreaves:

*“Can the council leadership provide an update on the outcome of the report it commissioned Sport England to carry out on swimming pools in Bradford, specifically in relation to the future of Queensbury Pool? As a former Queensbury Ward councillor, an active community campaigner*

*and a frustrated resident with a keen interest in the future of the site, it is disappointing that the council has been sitting on this information since the middle of December and that it's officers refuse to make an announcement despite previous promises made."*

(Fatima Butt – 07970 411746)

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

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

- a) That the following non-voting co-opted members be appointed to the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the 2022/23 Municipal Year:
- Tom Bright – Teacher Secondary School Representative
  - Dr Samina Karim – Children's Social Care.
- b) That the following non-voting co-opted members be appointed to the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the 2022/23 Municipal Year:
- Susan Crowe – Bradford District Assembly Health and Wellbeing Forum
  - Trevor Ramsay – i2i Patient Involvement Network, Bradford District NHS Foundation Care Trust
  - Helen Rushworth – Healthwatch Bradford and District.

**Action: Interim City Solicitor**

**9. REPORT BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

A written report by the Leader of Council giving an update on key issues will be circulated before the start of the meeting. There shall be a period of up to 15 minutes during which any Member of Council may ask the Leader of the Council (or a Member of the Council nominated by the Leader) a question on any matter arising out of the written report.

**10. MEMBER QUESTION TIME (Standing Order 12)**

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

**Notes:**

- (i) *Answers to written questions shall be circulated at the commencement of the meeting.*

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

#### **1. Councillor Angela Tait**

Would the leader join me in congratulating the organisers of the Bradford Dragon Boat Festival for delivering a wonderful event for the district to be proud of and raising much needed funds for The Lord Mayor's Charities and multiple other charities.

#### **2. Councillor Sally Birch**

How many Council owned residential class properties have been empty/unoccupied for over a year and what are the criteria for managing these in light of the housing demands in the district?

#### **3. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland**

At the Corporate Scrutiny Committee on 30th June 2022 the issue of apparently hundreds of computers bought for staff in Children's Services remaining unused was raised. Can the Leader assure us that the Council knows how many devices there are, exactly where they are now and can she confirm that there is no information about Bradford's most vulnerable children left on those devices?

#### **4. Councillor Matt Edwards**

Can the leader of the Council tell us what Bradford Council have done to make sure: a) every individual and small business that is eligible for an exemption for the Clean Air Zone has been made aware of the options; b) ensure the website is accurate and up to date with all the relevant information; and c) The Council has in place information and process to assist residents who don't have access to the internet.

#### **5. Councillor Luke Majkowski**

Can the portfolio holder finally provide feedback for members, as well as for the very hardworking and dedicated Queensbury Tunnel Society, on the studies carried out on Queensbury Tunnel? This information has been in the hands of the council for a significant amount of time now. Also, do recent events at Cumbria's Great Musgrave Bridge, in his opinion, have any impact on the in filling of Queensbury Tunnel?

#### **6. Councillor Fozia Shaheen**

Can the leader join me in congratulating Bradford District in securing the City of Culture 2025. This is an amazing achievement

for our city. Please could the leader assure this money will be used to reflect and support all communities through regeneration, heritage and cultural opportunities, and advise what are the plans for the next steps.

#### **7. Councillor Angela Tait**

Could the portfolio holder provide an update on progress of the domestic violence pilots across the district.

#### **8. Councillor Mike Pollard**

Further to the airing of "Bradford on Duty", does the Leader of the Council believe that contributing to the programme was a good idea, conducive to promoting to the reputation and perception of Bradford District?

#### **9. Councillor Paul Godwin**

How much are Keighley Town Council spending on their referendum? Including sending a letter to voters to explain the arrangements? What proportion of Town Council's annual precept would this represent?

#### **10. Councillor Paul Godwin**

In the event of development not going ahead on the old Keighley College site, what would be the financial implications for the Council in terms of 'clawback' of the funding provided for the site preparation?

#### **11. Councillor Zafar Ali**

In light of residents' confusion regarding the responsibility for the clearance of leaves on public footpaths etc, they now often report problems to Ward Councillors as a first port of call and when advised to ring the generic Bradford 01274,431000, as this is what the Council advises members to pass on, they sometimes respond with disappointment and sometimes hostility towards elected members, would the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Transport, Planning and Housing, please advise as to how the council proposes to improve / streamline this situation?

#### **12. Councillor Brendon Stubbs**

Following the freedom of information request from the Times newspaper that revealed that Bradford Council still has around 90% of office space unused due to continued home working of staff, can the leader please detail the current occupancy levels and the steps being taken to ensure that unused office space is not becoming a financial burden and ensure that staff are encouraged to return to the workplace.

### **13. Councillor Kevin Warnes**

Can the Leader of Council reassure the Shipley ward councillors that officers implementing the Active Travel Neighbourhood in Saltaire will make sure that (a) local Town and District councillors are kept fully informed about its performance on a regular basis; (b) residents are similarly updated about the impacts on traffic in their community; and (c) the Executive undertakes to respond fully to any concerns that residents and councillors may have about this scheme?

### **14. Councillor Nazam Azam**

With the cost of living crisis is there an opportunity to do more to support the roll out of Citizen Coin?

### **15. Councillor Marcus Dearden**

It's good to see the council investing in the Doe Park centre – please could the portfolio holder outline what are the recent improvements to the building and the expected benefits. Are there discounts in place for disadvantaged young people?

### **16. Councillor Geoff Winnard**

In view of the Bradford's success in being named 2025 City of Culture, can the leader confirm that the Council's culture policy is supportive of artistic freedom of expression, whether through books, paintings, films, sculpture etc. (unless illegal) and in opposition to censorship?

### **17. Councillor Julie Lintern**

Can the portfolio holder advise what events are planned for the Holiday Activities and Food programme in the school summer holidays for children throughout the district?

### **18. Councillor Mohammed Shafiq**

How many electric or low emission buses do we now have in the Bradford district?

### **19. Councillor Debbie Davies**

A report that went to scrutiny in the spring stated “getting office workers back into our city and centres is the key remaining element to recovering to pre-pandemic footfall levels” – could we have an update on council office workers and what the current working arrangements are working from home and the office?

### **20. Councillor Taj Salam**

The recent finance report to Executive predicts the council will face an additional £20m cost from rising inflation, with transport fuel

costs already up 25% and an estimated doubling of energy unit prices. The report also predicts a continuing impact from Covid yet our Covid funding from government has ended. Does the Leader share my concern, how will the government put its levelling up rhetoric into practice given councils across the country are facing such immense budget shortfalls for the coming year?

**21. Councillor Rizwana Jamil**

Can I have an update on our planting a tree for every child project?

**22. Councillor Mike Pollard**

Would the Leader concede that Government merely endorsed the CAZ charging structure proposed by Council, it did not mandate the charging structure to be adopted.

**23. Councillor Hassan Khan**

Can the portfolio holder explain the Vision Zero initiative to reduce road casualties and what more we can do with police and partners to make our roads safer for everyone?

**24. Councillor Kamran Hussain**

Can the Portfolio Holder for Housing outline the steps taken by the Council's Homelessness teams to reduce the number of people in temporary accommodation and support them into secure, permanent accommodation of a decent standard?

**25. Councillor Andrew Loy**

What funding, if any, has been allocated to Backstone Way playground in Ilkley for new and replacement equipment?

**26. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland**

There have been a number of incidents in local woodlands and parks where members of the public have felt scared or intimidated or even experienced a dog-on-dog attack from dogs being walked by professional dog walkers. Does the Portfolio Holder agree it is essential that dog walkers comply with the requirements of the law and local bylaws relating to dog walking and will she consider implementing a scheme to licence professional dog walkers which also limits the number of dogs that can be walked, restricts the meeting up of professional dog-walkers and ensures standards of welfare for the dog, respect for other walkers or riders, the environment and peace of mind for the dog-owners.

**27. Councillor Celia Hickson**

Will the leader of the Council and officers agree to meet ward councillors and representatives from Tong Leadership Academy to discuss the ongoing situation at the former Yorkshire Martyr's Site? Given the location of the site and the limited possible uses, would

the Council consider purchasing the site to ensure this eyesore is finally demolished?

**28. Councillor Kamran Hussain**

Can the portfolio holder tell me what provisions have been put in place to support grassroots organisations in deprived areas post-pandemic?

**29. Councillor Mohammed Shafiq**

Can the portfolio holder give an update on our investment in skills and supporting people into work post-Covid?

**30. Councillor Geoff Winnard**

On Sunday, 15 May a section of the northbound A650 Bingley Bypass was closed to motorists to allow filming for a BBC television programme. This caused widespread disruption for local residents, most of whom were unaware of the planned road closure, with significant congestion on routes through the town. What assessment of the likely traffic impact was made by the Council before deciding to whether to agree to the road closure? How much did the Council charge the filming company for use of the highway throughout the day?

**31. Councillor Mohsin Hussain**

Can the portfolio holder give an update on the Towns Fund plans for Keighley and which projects are likely to be delivered most quickly?

**32. Councillor Liz Rowe**

Can I have an update from the portfolio holder for regeneration on our investments with our partners in Shipley constituency, including the latest on the Towns Fund schemes?

**33. Councillor Debbie Davies**

Culture is our plan' target is "by 2031 50% of Bradford District creative workforce, audiences and cultural leadership will be drawn from people currently underrepresented in Culture and Creative Industries sector." Could you explain which people are underrepresented?

**34. Councillor Julie Humphries**

An LGA survey found 98% of councils do not have confidence that the funding from the government's adult social care reforms will be enough to meet need – does the portfolio holder share that concern?

### **35. Councillor Kyle Green**

What projects are being considered for the Keighley Constituency for the Government's Levelling up Funding and what consultation will take place with local ward Councillors regarding this funding?

### **36. Councillor Debbie Davies**

It states in the Infrastructure Funding Statement 2020/2021 that there was £9.52m unspent Section 106 contributions – what is the current figure and when is this money going to be spent on the important items it has been allocated towards such as affordable housing, highway works and recreation?

### **37. Councillor Alun Griffiths**

Does the leader agree that this council should be standing up for fair and responsible tax conduct, and as such will she commit to supporting the "Councils for Fair Tax declaration"?

### **38. Councillor Anna Watson**

Now that we have secured our forthcoming City of Culture status, will the Leader of Council please (a) write to Network Rail to press them to invest more resources in clearing away the refuse/litter from the approaches to Bradford's railways stations and (b) share Network Rail's response with councillor colleagues?

## **11. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEES (Standing Order 15) 1 - 22**

At the meeting of Governance and Audit Committee held on 9 June 2022, consideration was given to a report of the Director of Finance and IT, which presented the Annual Treasury Management Report 2021-22 for adoption by Council.

**Resolved** – That the report (**Document "C"**) be noted and referred to Council for adoption.

**Action: Director of Finance and IT**

## **12. NOTICES OF MOTION (Standing Order 17)**

To consider notices of motion set out below:

### **12.1**

#### **Eliminating the use of pesticides in our community**

To be moved by: Councillor Anna Watson

To be seconded by: Councillor Kevin Warnes

Council notes that:

- a) residents across our District are concerned about the use of pesticides such as Glyphosate on our streets, housing estates, parks and gardens, and the impact of this policy on human, animal, insect and environmental health in general;
- b) these concerns are increasingly supported by scientific evidence that shows potential links of Glyphosate to cancer, liver disease and fertility in the human population;
- c) there is also growing scientific evidence that the use of pesticides, including Glyphosate, is causing a decline in insect populations including key pollinators such as bees, wasps and butterflies;
- d) the European Commission published proposals in June 2022 that will “ban all pesticides in sensitive areas”, prohibiting their use “in places such as urban green areas, including public parks or gardens, playgrounds, schools, recreation or sports grounds, public paths and...any ecologically sensitive area to be preserved for threatened pollinators”, with the intention of removing chemical pesticides “from our proximity in our everyday lives”;
- e) many towns and cities across the UK are reducing, or eradicating, the use of pesticides in urban spaces and switching to non-chemical methods of weed control;
- f) Bradford Council’s Sustainable Development Action Plan states that the principle of “Living Within Environmental Limits” should “inform action across the Council”, and that “The Council, with the powers, resources and influence at its disposal, will seek to ensure effective climate action and a safe and high quality local environment, actively working to have a positive impact on the rest of the world. Respecting the limits of our environment, resources and biodiversity and ensuring that the natural resources needed for life are unimpaired and remain so for future generations”;
- g) our Local Biodiversity Action Plan does NOT include bumblebee bees or other pollinators in the list of species that have action plans to protect and enhance their status across the District.

Council therefore resolves to:

1. produce an action plan for the elimination of the use of all pesticides by the Council, inclusive of glyphosate, before the end of 2022, with the intention of implementing the measures in the plan from the beginning of the 2023-2024 municipal year;
2. support our key partners to follow suit and develop their own strategy for ending the use of pesticides on land under their control;
3. encourage the general public to stop the use of pesticides in their gardens, allotments and other open areas;
4. develop a broader pollination strategy that will show how, as a District, we will support biodiversity and local ecosystems through regeneration and the protection of local habitats (for example, through development of local community orchards/gardens, the introduction of a wild flowering programme or simple re-wilding

- areas of the District);
5. add bumble bees and other pollinators to our Local Biodiversity Action Plan as species with action plans to protect and enhance their status across the District
  6. request that the Chief Executive reports back to Council in January 2023 with an update on how the above actions have been implemented.

## 12.2

### Woodlands and trees

To be moved by: Councillor Luke Majkowski

To be seconded by: Councillor Matt Edwards

Council notes that:

- Bradford Council currently manage around 30,000 street trees and 860 hectares of woodland across the District.
- The Woodlands Team in Bradford Council consists of 11 members including senior officers. 4 of the 11 members are front line operatives who are able to respond to issues at ground level only.
- Work needed to trees above head height is currently contracted out.
- In January 2019, Bradford Council passed a motion that declared a “Climate Emergency” and on our website commits to “Improve green space” across the District.
- Bradford Council has also pledged to plant one tree for every primary school child across the District. This equates to 55,000 trees of which around 26,000 have already been planted. 10,000 of which will be planted under the Queens Canopy (QGC).
- Bradford Council was awarded “Tree City of the World” for its commitment to urban tree forestry.
- Bradford District is part of Northern Forest Project - an ambitious plan to plant 50 million trees across the North of England before 2032.

Council resolves that:

To ensure we are able to deliver its ambitious goals by:

- Reviewing the size of the woodlands department to ensure it is able to deliver effective trees and woodland preservation across the District.
- To ensure plans are in place so that new trees planted in any of the schemes are looked after to ensure they reach maturity.
- To ensure that trees with Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) on Council land have individual risk assessments and plans are in place to preserve trees deemed at risk. Where relevant, plans should involve voluntary groups such as “Friend of” groups.

- Having a robust process in place to assist residents raising concerns about trees overhanging their property and to ensure the Council quickly responds to issues.
- Working with community groups and volunteer groups to build better relationships and empower them to manage the trees and woodlands in a sustainable and controlled manner.
- Improving the process for residents to report issues within the Bradford Council app and website.
- Reviewing the current communication plan between the woodlands department, the public and councillors to ensure residents and councillors are kept informed about the issues they raise.

### **12.3**

#### **Supporting all road users**

To be moved by: Councillor Debbie Davies

To be seconded by: Councillor Rebecca Poulsen

Council notes that:

- For many people car ownership is an aspiration or a necessity.
- However good public transport can be, it will never take you from door to door and you cannot use it to transport more equipment, shopping etc. than you can carry.
- People can't rely on trains and buses due to strike action, unreliable services or cuts to services.
- Not everybody is confident about riding a bike on the roads or in all weathers and it's difficult or impossible to carry children and pets.

Council resolves:

- To stop seeing cars as the enemy and instead think of all road users when planning new road schemes or changes to the current road network.
- To learn from mistakes in the past where bus lanes have been introduced and then reverted to lanes for motorists.
- To ensure that cyclists are safely segregated from motorists by using off road routes e.g. wider pavements with space for cyclists and pedestrians, off road cycle ways and making better use of towpaths and disused railway lines.

### **12.4**

#### **Rental Auctions**

To be moved by: Councillor Alun Griffiths

To be seconded by: Councillor Brendan Stubbs

This council notes the provisions in the Levelling up Bill currently before parliament pertaining to powers for Local Authorities to require “Rental Auctions” where high street properties have been left empty for more than a year.

This council believes that such empty properties are a blight on our City and Town centres and have a damaging knock on effect on neighbouring businesses and the areas as a whole.

This council resolves to:

- Write to our district’s members of parliament requesting that they support these parts of the bill.
- Prepare to make use of these provisions by identifying areas to be designated as “High Streets” within the meaning of the act.
- Identifying the properties in these street that fulfil the “vacancy condition” within the act in order that letting notices and if subsequently required final letting notices may be issued without delay when the powers are made available.

## **12.5**

### **A Council Structure to meet future needs**

To be moved by: Councillor Mike Pollard

To be seconded by: Councillor Rebecca Poulsen

Council notes that:

- Bradford is the fifth largest Metropolitan District Council with the youngest population in the country.
- The proportion of the Council budget invested in Children’s Services is approximately 34.5%, a percentage understated to a considerable extent via an obvious emerging error, leading to a Q1 update which, had it been realistically modelled and presented at the outset, i.e. at Budget Council in February, would have been approximately 43%.
- The Children’s Services staff will and the bulk of the annual budget for the service will likely, transfer to the new arms-length company, significantly reducing the day to day Children’s Services responsibilities of the Council, with Bradford remaining the 5<sup>th</sup> largest Metropolitan District in terms of demography, but not in terms of functional responsibility.
- A significant portion of Education Services have been externalised in recent years, by the academisation of many schools.
- In order to carry out its responsibilities, the new Children’s Services company will require its own senior management team, with salaries at a level required to attract the calibre of candidates capable to bring about rapid, sustainable improvements and this will not be cheap.
- In light of the ongoing increases in the cost of living, the residents

of Bradford do not need the burden of paying for additional managers and the council should not expect them to pay extra tax indefinitely, for its repeated serious failings in Children's Services.

Council resolves:

- To instigate a review to identify the most suitable management structure for the council for the foreseeable future.

## 12.6

### **UK City of Culture 2025**

To be moved by: Councillor Susan Hinchcliffe

To be seconded by: Councillor Rebecca Poulsen

On 31<sup>st</sup> May Bradford was named UK City of Culture 2025 after a hugely successful bid which showed off the whole district, its talent and its unequalled potential to the expert judges and ministers. Bradford's award of UK City of Culture will generate significant new inward investment to the district and create exciting opportunities for residents and businesses.

This Council:

- Thanks the Bradford 2025 City of Culture team for their hard work in developing a brilliant and inclusive bid that galvanised the whole district.
- Reaffirms our support as the team progress to the next stage of planning for delivery.
- Recognises the importance of art, culture and the creative industries in driving regeneration and generating world class opportunities for residents of all ages and backgrounds.
- Recognises that the arts and culture are integral to a high-quality STEAM curriculum in schools and other educational settings (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics)
- Notes and welcomes the economic and social benefits already gained for the district through the bid, including:
  - Over £5m revenue secured in the past three years.
  - £2m secured for Creative People and Places and £1m for the Bradford Producing Hub (one of only two in the UK).
  - Extensive local, national and global coverage across print, digital, TV and social media.
  - Published a 10-year cultural strategy, Culture is our Plan, recognised as a national model of good practice.
  - Delivered a series of projects showcasing a new wave of talent.
  - Developed new levels of collaboration and partnership between key agencies, particularly the University of Bradford and the Council.

We resolve to:

- Continue our strong support for the City of Culture team in the next phase of planning for delivery of a successful year.
- Work with partners across the district and nationally to gain and share expertise and to involve everyone in the district as excitement builds to 2025.
- Work to ensure the strongest possible lasting legacy from Bradford's year as City of Culture for all communities across the whole of the district – we must ensure our residents and businesses enjoy sustained benefits post-2025 and this must be a key part of the delivery plans.

## **12.7**

### **UK cost of living crisis**

To be moved by: Councillor Susan Hinchcliffe

To be seconded by: Councillor Abdul Jabar

This Council is concerned that these are extremely difficult times for residents and businesses in our district faced with the national cost of living crisis. UK inflation is at a 40-year high of 9.1%. The Bank of England expects it will reach 11% in October, significantly higher than other similar countries in the G7.

Wages in the UK stagnated between 2010 and 2020 in a decade of government austerity and weak growth. We now have a country where household budgets are under strain, including those of working families who account for over 40%, or 2 million, of Universal Credit claimants. Plus a growing number of families who receive no state support are worried about money. Two thirds (66%) of respondents to the Office for National Statistics' latest Opinions and Lifestyle Survey (OPN) in January said their cost of living had gone up in the last month. Of those, almost 9 in 10 (87%) said the price of their food shop had increased, and 8 in 10 (79%) said gas and electricity prices were a factor. We now have the added impact of Covid, Brexit and global events like the war in Ukraine, creating a perfect storm for all households and especially the most vulnerable who are disproportionately hit by rising food and energy costs.

The government's £20 a week cut in Universal Credit last October takes £66m from the least well-off households in our district over the course of a year.

For families, businesses and public services alike, costs are rising rapidly. Growth is lacking. Whilst we as a Council do everything we can to support residents through this, the country needs a transformation not a sticking plaster. The Government needs to invest in growth that everyone can contribute to and share in.

This Council resolves to:

- Continue to support our most vulnerable residents facing immediate pressures by providing:
  - Welfare assistance and advice.
  - Council Tax Reduction scheme including for care leavers.
  - Discretionary housing payments.
  - The Household Support Fund, including support for: VCS provision, free school meal families during the summer break, foodbanks, carers, lower-cost white goods and help with fuel costs.
  - Holiday activity and food (HAF) programmes.
  - Support for social supermarkets and foodbanks.
  - Support for the Bradford Credit Union.
  - Support for the development of our anti-poverty strategy to meet the growing challenges of the post-covid world and rising cost of living, which will aim to protect people in poverty, prevent people falling into or deeper into poverty, provide pathways out of poverty and ensure those in poverty can participate in the full life of their communities – economic, social, political and cultural.
- Continue to work with the West Yorkshire Mayor who is taking action to tackle the cost of living crisis on a regional level, for example by capping bus fares.
- Invest in growth – we are building the infrastructure for businesses to grow and investing in employment and skills to support people into work.
- Call on government to do more for struggling families – current HAF funding covers only four weeks of the six week holidays and only four days in those weeks.
- Call on government to invest in a stronger, more secure and growing economy for the long term – which means investing in Bradford to make levelling up a reality.
- Lobby government for fairer council funding.

**13. PAY POLICY STATEMENT UPDATE FOR 2022/23**

23 - 42

To receive a report from the Director of Human Resources presenting details of the proposed amendments to Pay Policy Statements for the financial year 2022/23 to reflect appointments to the Children's Trust, and senior roles in the Council following job evaluation and benchmarking.

**14. EXECUTIVE CONSIDERATION OF URGENT REPORT**

43 - 44

Pursuant to paragraph 12.1 of the Executive Procedure Rules, the Leader of the Council to present an update to Council detailing Executive decisions considered within the previous three months under the Special Urgency provisions contained in paragraph 11 of the Executive Procedure Rules.