

Public Document Pack

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

held at the Council House, Old Market Square

on 8 July 2019 from 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm

ATTENDANCES:

✓ Councillor Rosemary Healy (Lord Mayor)	
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✓ Councillor Hassan Ahmed	✓ Councillor Patience Ifediora
✓ Councillor Leslie Ayoola	✓ Councillor Chantal Lee
✓ Councillor Cheryl Barnard	✓ Councillor Dave Liversidge
✓ Councillor Steve Battlemuch	✓ Councillor Sally Longford
✓ Councillor Merlita Bryan	✓ Councillor AJ Matsiko
✓ Councillor Eunice Campbell-Clark	✓ Councillor Carole McCulloch
✓ Councillor Graham Chapman	✓ Councillor David Mellen
✓ Councillor Azad Choudhry	✓ Councillor Sajid Mohammed
✓ Councillor Kevin Clarke	✓ Councillor Salma Mumtaz
✓ Councillor Audrey Dinnall	✓ Councillor Toby Neal
✓ Councillor Michael Edwards	✓ Councillor Lauren O'Grady
✓ Councillor Sam Gardiner	✓ Councillor Anne Peach
✓ Councillor Jay Hayes	✓ Councillor Georgia Power
✓ Councillor Nicola Heaton	✓ Councillor Shuguftah Quddoos
✓ Councillor Phil Jackson	✓ Councillor Ethan Radford
✓ Councillor Maria Joannou	✓ Councillor Nick Raine
✓ Councillor Sue Johnson	✓ Councillor Angharad Roberts
✓ Councillor Kirsty Jones	✓ Councillor Andrew Rule
✓ Councillor Angela Kandola	✓ Councillor Mohammed Saghir
✓ Councillor Jawaid Khalil	✓ Councillor Wendy Smith
✓ Councillor Gul Nawaz Khan	✓ Councillor Roger Steel
✓ Councillor Neghat Nawaz Khan	✓ Councillor Dave Trimble
✓ Councillor Zafran Nawaz Khan	✓ Councillor Maria Watson
✓ Councillor Pavlos Kotsonis	✓ Councillor Sam Webster
✓ Councillor Jane Lakey	✓ Councillor Adele Williams
✓ Councillor Rebecca Langton	✓ Councillor Linda Woodings
	✓ Councillor Cate Woodward
	✓ Councillor Audra Wynter

✓ Indicates present at meeting

18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Leslie Ayoola – personal
Councillor Dave Liversidge - unwell

19 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Councillors Cheryl Barnard, Azad Choudhry, Kevin Clarke, Sam Gardiner, Jawaid Khalil, Gul Nawaz Khan, Neghat Nawaz Khan, Jane Lakey and Audra Wynter declared an interest in Agenda Item 12 'Motion in the name of Councillor Linda

Woodings' as they are landlords of private rental properties. They left the room during consideration of, and voting on this Item.

20 TO NOTE THE APPOINTMENT OF THE LORD MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN

The appointment of Rabbi Tanya Sakhnovich as the Lord Mayor's Chaplain for 2019/20 was noted.

21 QUESTIONS FROM CITIZENS

Mundella Building, Green Street

JH asked the following question of the Leader of the Council:

The Mundella Building, Green Street was sold to Blueprint for £70,164. Why was there no public consultation about the future and sale of this fine educational facility, built on land sold to the Council by Jesse Boot expressly for educational purposes?

Could they not come to some arrangement to hand this beautifully proportioned educational building back into public/community ownership, for example, training, education, crafts, cultural events, a community kitchen and a cafe, with al fresco dining in its outdoor courtyard? Is there enough good will amongst this new Council and their partners for this building to be developed into a useful community asset serving the many, not the few, serving thousands of people, rather than be turned into 10 luxury apartments? If there is now appetite within this new Council to retain the building for the citizens of Nottingham, will the profits (from what may well be in excess of a £2million development) be ploughed into the 3 local schools?

Councillor David Mellen replied as follows:

Thank you Lord Mayor, and can I thank the citizen for the question. The vacant Mundella Centre was transferred from Nottinghamshire County Council to Nottingham City Council in 2011. When the property was transferred its potential reuse for educational purposes was considered but not progressed and the building has subsequently stood vacant for a number of years. During this time the building has been subject to vandalism and we have incurred costs related to holding the vacant building. We undertook extensive discussions and negotiations with a local organisation that had expressed an interest in reusing the building but the costs of the refurbishment were prohibitive and it withdrew its interest. No community group has approached the Council during this time with a view to its reuse. To support the regeneration plans for the Meadows we decided to sell the site to Blueprint at best consideration rather than leave it vacant any longer. The price paid takes into account the condition of the building, layout and location. The Council supports the conversion of such buildings rather than demolition and the costs of refurbishing such an old building are significant.

Investment has been made over the past decade into schools in the Meadows. At Wellbeck Primary a consultation approved the increase in numbers of pupils in the school from 210 to 315. This required the demolition of the Trent Family Centre next door to create more space for the school and a new build. It cost about £800,000. The conditions works at the school have required around a further £200,000 of investment. At Victoria Primary, previously Riverside Primary, the expansion works

in 2013/14 included a new hall and six new classes taking the school from a 210 place to a 420 place. The cost was about £1.1million. This included condition works to improve drainage at the site. Greenfields Primary School, one of six schools in the City to benefit from the Primary Capital Programme (before the Government cancelled this investment) was reconfigured at a cost of £1.4million in 2011. A further investment is planned to improve Greenfields' roof this year at a cost of £380,000. In addition, a Sure Start Centre was built adjacent to the Greenfields Primary School in 2006/07 at a cost of around £0.5million.

Finally, Blueprint is a joint venture company with 50% of the profits returning to the Council, critical to enabling the Council to deliver frontline services to communities across the City, including the Meadows.

Teaching about same sex relationships in schools

CMD asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Early Years, Education and Employment:

What does Nottingham City Council think about the banning of protesters in Birmingham over the teachings in schools? Does our Council support the teaching of same sex relationships? Is our Council prepared to vote on a motion?

Councillor Neghat Nawaz Khan replied as follows:

Thank you Lord Mayor. Can I start by thanking the citizen for their question. It would be inappropriate for Nottingham City Council to make judgement about the decisions made by another democratically elected council. We recognise and uphold the right of people to hold peaceful protest, it is the bedrock of any democracy. However, we would suggest that it is also the shared responsibility of schools, local authorities, parents and local communities to ensure that children are able to arrive at, and leave their school in an atmosphere that does not cause them to feel any anxiety or distress.

The Council supports schools and academies to uphold their legal duty to ensure that children and young people have access to high quality relationship and sex education. They have been doing this for many years and we believe it is vital to ensure that, in a fast changing world, children and young people are equipped to make choices that enable them to stay safe and enjoy healthy respectful relationships. As part of the teachings, the Council supports schools to ensure that Nottingham's children and young people are given the opportunity to explore a range of family and relationship types in a way that is supportive, inclusive and affirms children's different experiences of family life. In modern Britain families come in many different shapes and sizes including same sex parents, single parents, fostering and adoptive parents. On 25 June 2019, to mark the national Relationships and Sex Education (SRE) Day, which was pioneered in Nottingham, a public statement was signed by 54 of the Council's 55 councillors that affirms across the entire political spectrum Nottingham's commitment to being a diverse City that celebrates equality, inclusivity and respect.

Acoustic cameras

GB asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Adult Care and Local Transport:

The Department of Transport is trialling acoustic cameras to detect illegally noisy vehicles. I think it would be great for Nottingham to take a lead in this area and continue the pioneering effort for reduction of pollution of all kinds across the City. In particular, I think such a trial would be highly effective in Talbot Street, Wollaton Street and Derby Road. All three roads tend to 'funnel' sound in because of the high buildings and narrow roadway, and all three roads are common places for 'boy racers' and noisy motorcycles to be heard. All three roads have a high residential population (including myself) who suffer from this noise pollution. So my question is: will Nottingham be taking a lead in the use of this technology?

Councillor Adele Williams replied as follows:

Thank you Lord Mayor, and thanks to the citizen for this question. Nottingham won't be taking a lead in the use of this technology at this stage. Noise from road traffic is exempted from the enforcement provisions of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and therefore it is not something that we can currently locally enforce. Road traffic noise from illegal or faulty exhausts is a police enforcement matter under the Vehicle Construction and Use Regulations. The Department of Transport trial that the citizen mentioned seems to be focused on rural areas and it would appear from the Department of Transport website that those locations have already been identified. Such a trial in a rural setting, as you can imagine, would provide a straightforward ideal location. It is likely that a similar trial in an urban area, for example Talbot Street or Wollaton Street, would be more difficult and problematic to conduct because of the increased likelihood of acoustic reflections from buildings and street infrastructure, and of course the fact that they are very busy areas. Both of which may hamper the accurate identification of an offending vehicle. The technology used in the trial is likely to make use of an array of acoustic intensity meters which can provide directionality to any noise source rather than the sound level meters that most local authorities, or acoustic consultants would use for standard environmental monitoring such as a noisy neighbour.

The report suggests that the relevant noise level has not yet been decided. Current vehicle manufacturers have to ensure that their vehicles meet noise emission limits when they are to leave the factory. Those levels are set and measured in ideal or standard conditions. Adopting a noise limit in the real world would be tricky. As well as acoustic reflections, sound propagation is affected by acoustic shielding i.e. other vehicles passing by, and other factors like wind strength and the rain. So, it is a very complex process. The Government's guidance on the calculation of road traffic noise requires measurements to be carried out in dry conditions and light winds. It is by no means clear that any trial here would be successful anyway.

One likely outcome of the move to electric vehicles, which are generally quieter than petrol or diesel vehicles at urban speeds, is that noisy vehicles may actually become more noticeable in the future so stand out amongst the quieter traffic levels.

In the longer term, if technology is proven to be reliable in both rural and urban settings then the logical course of action would be for the Government to create a specific offence and implement a network of acoustic cameras nationally and then

carry out enforcement on a national basis. That would not necessarily enable local anti social behaviour that is really annoying in an urban setting to be addressed. Any transfer and sharing of these powers with the local authority would be up to the Government but may mean that a local authority could obtain approved equipment and locate it wherever they saw fit. However, currently acoustic sound intensity meters are expensive and there would also be infrastructure and IT costs in order for the local authority to operate one and enforce breaches, including moving the equipment around so that offenders aren't wise to where they are going to be monitored.

So, I just wanted to thank the citizen for the question and I hope that I have set out that, in the current situation, this is not something that we would be able to take a lead on but really recognise the concerns around those noisy vehicles.

Clifton Estate

JC asked the following question of the Leader of the Council:

In a recent edition of the Nottingham Post, dated 10th May, the Leader of the Opposition declared that the Clifton Estate had undergone a period of decline and had been in 'demise' for an extended period of time. Does the Leader of the Council agree with me that this assessment of the state of the Clifton Estate is both inaccurate and offensive to it's residents and would he care to elaborate upon the efforts that the Council has made over the years to improve the state of the Clifton Estate and improve the lives of it's residents?

Councillor David Mellen replied as follows:

Thank you Lord Mayor. Can I thank the citizen for the question. I am familiar with the article referred to in the question and I welcome the opportunity to address these issues in the Chamber today. Nottingham City Council has invested significantly in Clifton, in the face of disproportionate cuts to Council funding, making it a desirable place to live, learn, work and play.

There is an obvious benefit of having the tram now serving the area, providing a vital link to the city centre, the QMC, the north and the west of the City and attracting fresh investment into Clifton. The long-awaited A453 improvements have given easy access to the M1 and much less congestion along the edge of the estate than there was previously.

Nottingham City Council has also worked to secure significant investment in the Clifton Triangle retail development, which marks a significant expansion and strengthening of the Clifton district centre. This includes £15million worth of investment in development including a new B&M store and Lidl, which in turn has created 130 new jobs, is offering more affordable shopping opportunities for local people with 85% of the jobs going to local people. Approval has also been given for further retail development on the surplus car park land to the side of the Morrisons store and we have provided conditions for businesses to invest in Clifton, which have helped increase retail choices for shoppers. Our shopping areas are performing extremely well, with our local shopping parades of Varney Road, Holy Trinity and Southchurch Drive being fully occupied.

The Council also invested £0.5million in Clifton to improve pedestrian and shopping areas, including the local market and a new high quality entrance to the Central Flower Park. The Clifton Cornerstone Joint Service Centre which opened in 2006 has brought the local Council, medical and housing services under one roof and we have facilitated extensive energy efficiency improvements to housing as well as new housing developments and new play areas. There has been the expansion of Whitegate Primary School, the planned expansion of Nethergate Academy and the Clifton secondary school, Farnborough Academy, has had a brand new building making it accessible from the tram. On Green Lane, the Clifton Young People's Centre has had improvements leaving it as a great purpose-built youth club for the young people in the area, something which many other parts of the City would dearly love.

There has been considerable investment in the Council housing stock in Clifton. A total of just under £30million was invested between 2009 and 2019 by the Decent Homes Programme and other major schemes, most notably the External Wall Insulation Programme which has had a transformational impact on the Estate. In terms of new homes, there has been a £1.8million investment in Clifton with the completion of 14 new homes on Eddlestone Drive, Meadowvale Crescent, Colesborne Road and Middlefell Way. Through Nottingham City Homes we are currently investing a further £3.3million in 24 new build flats at the Clifton Triangle site due for completion next year. On top of that we are also progressing the design of 32 new homes on Southchurch Court. This will see another £4million investment in the Clifton area. Houses sell very quickly with prices rising faster than the national average as demand outstrips supply. Living in Clifton has become desirable as buyers want to access the new and improved facilities available in the area. This hardly describes an area in decline.

In May we adopted Nottingham Labour's ambitious manifesto, which will form the basis of our plans for Nottingham over the next 4 years. We want the best for Nottingham: quality jobs, good schools, an excellent public transport system, top class leisure facilities as well as affordable housing. We have shown that only Nottingham Labour has a track record and ambitious vision for the City.

So, citizen JC, we thank you for your question. I don't agree with Councillor Clarke in those particular comments. I will not talk down Clifton and its residents. Clifton is an important part of our City. Its citizens contribute much to Nottingham and I look forward to that continuing.

Mobility bus passes

LS asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Adult Care and Local Transport:

I welcome the City Council's commitment to a 'robust and meaningful' review of the decision to withdraw the pre 9.30am and post 11pm free travel for disabled people with a mobility pass. Will the City Council ensure that:

1. there will be full, wide-ranging publicity about the review, including the use of local media (local radio, Nottingham Post, local TV etc) and social media (Facebook etc);

2. information about the review and the opportunity to provide feedback and evidence will be widely publicised, including information being sent directly to disability organisations;
3. the period of the review will be clearly publicised and information released before the start of the review period; and
4. City Council departments and service areas will be asked about the impact of the Mobility Pass restrictions for their service users and volunteers?

What will be the dates for the review?

Councillor Adele Williams replied as follows:

Thank you Lord Mayor and thanks to the citizen for sending in this question. Thanks for your interest in the review that the Council is conducting into mobility passes. I would really like to thank the Mobility Pass Campaign for their work on this issue. I had a really positive meeting with the Campaign Group last week and I look forward to further engagement with them. The review is underway within the Council in that we are already undertaking internal analysis on this, but we will follow that with a targeted consultation before any conclusions are reached. We will directly invite comments from a range of disability and voluntary groups, and we are also planning to look at the connections between this policy and other areas of the Council's work. We want to hear from a wide range of people who are, or could be, impacted by the current policy. We will engage with groups representing service users and with companies providing public transport and through them their users. We will ensure that citizens are able to share their views as part of this review by electronic, paper and other accessible channels.

The Campaign Group has asked us to extend this review so that it is as accessible as possible given the holiday period approaching and the additional access needs of many of those affected. So, with that in mind, we will launch the targeted consultation process in July and close it in mid-October, for a decision mid-November. We will ensure that the review is well-publicised and accessible. We will also review the Equality Impact Assessment, which is the City Council's assessment of the impact of the measures on a range of citizens and service users.

Thanks again for this question and I look forward to hearing from citizens on this issue.

22 PETITIONS FROM COUNCILLORS ON BEHALF OF CITIZENS

Councillor Cheryl Barnard submitted a petition on behalf of residents of Bulwell Forest requesting that no funfairs and events including loud music and noise are held on the Bulwell Forest Recreation Ground.

23 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 20 MAY 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2019 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

24 TO RECEIVE OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND/OR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Alison Michalska, Deputy Chief Executive, reported the following:

Queen's Birthday Honours 2019

I would like to congratulate all those who live or work in Nottingham who were awarded an honour in the Queen's Birthday Honours List 2019, including Professor Harminder Singh Dua awarded a CBE for services to eye healthcare, health education and ophthalmology; Gillian Bainbridge awarded a BEM for services to tenants of the Aspley and Bells Lane Tenants and Residents Association; Melanie Leng awarded an MBE for services to environmental research; Rebecca Meredith awarded a CBE for services to education; and Skinder Hundal awarded an MBE for contribution to visual arts.

Former Councillor Tony Marshall

It is with sadness that I report the death of former Councillor Tony Marshall on 15 June 2019. He was first elected to represent the Arboretum ward in May 2003, and continued to do so until May 2011.

Councillor Merlita Bryan spoke in tribute to former Councillor Tony Marshall and a minute's silence was held.

25 QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS - TO THE CITY COUNCIL'S LEAD COUNCILLOR ON THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

None

26 QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS - TO A MEMBER OF EXECUTIVE BOARD, THE CHAIR OF A COMMITTEE AND THE CHAIR OF ANY OTHER CITY COUNCIL BODY

Homelessness

Councillor Maria Watson asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Planning and Heritage:

Could the Portfolio Holder outline, to the best of her knowledge, the most recently recorded number of homeless people living within the City?

Councillor Linda Woodings replied as follows:

Thank you Lord Mayor and thank you Councillor Watson for your question. As you are no doubt aware homelessness is national crisis caused by the impact of Government austerity, welfare reform and a broken housing market. In Nottingham, despite our substantial efforts, homelessness case management records show that there are a total of 698 households who are homeless in the City. 465 are under the main homelessness relief duty, 165 are owed the main homelessness duties and a

decision on main duty is pending for 68 households. In addition, there are also 266 households currently under the homelessness prevention duty who are not currently homeless but threatened with homelessness anticipated to occur within the next 56 days. It is at this point that I really do pay tribute to the NPRAS Team, the Nottingham private rented assistance scheme, who last year assisted 331 households before they became homeless.

I do appreciate that many citizens conflate homelessness with people who present as homeless and rough sleeping in the city centre. So I do repeatedly receive regular assurances in Nottingham, just in case there is any confusion, that we have our 'no first night out' policy and it gives me the confidence to say that those people who present as rough sleeping in the City either have, or have been offered accommodation. Our latest rough sleeper count in June, which is conducted every month by the City's Street Outreach Team, showed 48 people sleeping rough and that was a fall of 5 on the count for May.

How we are addressing this is by our ambitious programme of affordable council housing development which will help provide accommodation at a cost and standard that provides our residents with a decent home. Over the last four years we have built 2293 affordable homes with more than 500 in the pipeline as of May. We intend to build or buy 1000 more council homes for rent and facilitate the building of 4000 homes across the City. We also, within our manifesto, say that we will protect our benefits and welfare advice services for citizens in order that they do not get into debt. We are obviously campaigning to scrap the 'right to buy' but in the interim, whilst we have the current Government, we are campaigning to limit 'right to buy' to at least give us a moratorium period on 'right to buy' of new builds in order that we can recover our build costs. We set aside £9million to address homelessness in the City, making possible the purchase of 130 homes for use as temporary accommodation. We have additional staffing in our NPRAS Team. It has doubled in size now to support people to avoid them become homeless and facilitate access to new tenancies in the private rented sector. We also prevent unnecessary evictions from social housing and Nottingham City Homes has put in place an efficient mechanism to identify and prevent eviction of families at risk. We are about to start a consultation on the way we allocate housing to allow people to have a fair chance of accessing the limited supply of social housing before they reach the stage of homelessness. We are contacting empty home owners across the City to offer to purchase properties and bring them back into use. This is all being driven in a systematic way by a cross-council taskgroup and the Homelessness Prevention Strategy Implementation Group, alongside our Homelessness Partnership Forum to address all the issues that we can undertake to prevent and address homelessness in the City.

Single-use plastics

Councillor Kirsty Jones asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Energy, Environment and Democratic Services:

Whilst the City Council has committed to ensuring that Council premises will become single-use plastic free, there has been no mention of a time-frame. Will the Portfolio Holder take this opportunity, given the pressing need for this issue to be dealt with, to

set out her plan for how soon it will be before Nottingham City Council becomes single-use plastic free?

Councillor Sally Longford replied as follows:

Thank you Lord Mayor and thank you Councillor Jones for your question. I am delighted that you are taking an interest in our environmental issues and I look forward to working with you on them in the future. As I am sure you are aware, the pledge to make the Council single-use plastic free was contained within the Labour Manifesto this year and therefore it should be enacted during this term of office which runs to 2023. However I very much hope that we will be able to achieve this goal long before that. Of course, as I am sure you are aware, we didn't only pledge to cut the Council's use of plastic but also to work to reduce plastic use across the City by providing water bottle refill stations. Within the Energy Services Department a voluntary plastics taskforce has begun to work on this issue. Their activity has included organising the Refill water campaign to reduce single use plastic bottles. The Refill scheme has already signed up many local businesses which enables people to get their water bottles refilled and I would again encourage everyone to download the app onto their phone which helps you identify those businesses which are participating. This campaign received very positive publicity on Notts TV in June and while I was off sick my colleagues Zafran Khan and Angela Kandola were spreading the word about the campaign in neighbourhoods. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers and businesses who have become involved.

Already a number of service areas in the Council are developing ideas around this issue, making changes to single use plastic use within their areas. For example our leisure centre cafes are already signed up to the Refill campaign and are now working with the Council's Water Officer to look at water refill provision. From 1 July the use of single-use plastic overshoes was banned in all our leisure centres. I am told that the feedback from citizens has been very good. I have been working with the Waste Collection Team over the last year to start the process of getting rid of the orange recycling bags which are used in many apartments in the City. This is a laborious process. The Team have to negotiate with the management company of each apartment block separately but progress is being made and we obviously wish to ensure that tenants can still continue to recycle as well as they could before, if not better.

As a Council dealing with resources more effectively is part of the sustainability vision for the City being developed with the Green Partnership. It is not only in the context of waste and resources that this features, but also within the carbon neutral 2028 target as oil based plastics have a significant carbon footprint.

Getting rid of single use plastic across the authority is a significant piece of work and one that requires careful consideration so that the necessary functions provided by plastics can continue and that the replacements do not have significant unintended consequences. We are at the first stage, which is to audit the extent and purpose of single use plastics across the organisation. The immediate next step is prioritising areas for action and potential solutions that meet our needs. Where there are not any suitable available products, we will engage with partners such as the Core Cities and use our connections to organisations such as the Innovation Gateway to source new ones. Clearly many organisations are making similar steps and innovative

solutions are becoming more available and affordable. Once the audit is complete it will become possible to provide a more accurate timescale which I will be happy to share with the Council when it is available.

Special Responsibility Allowances

Councillor Kevin Clarke asked the following question of the Leader of the Council:

Since 2015, the Council has spent an eye-wateringly excessive £1,652,016.42 on an unnecessary payment to councillors entitled 'the Special Responsibility Allowance'. At a time when the answer to every question put to the Council bemoans budget cuts, is it not time that the Council invests this money back into the community through Area Committees, as opposed to further lining the pockets of councillors?

Councillor David Mellen replied as follows:

Thank you Lord Mayor. Can I thank Councillor Clarke for his question. Since 2015, the period he has talked about, we have had four more years of a Conservative-led Government, committed to austerity and restricting local spending whilst hitting poor communities and big northern and midlands cities hardest. This means cuts to funding for services that we all rely on including the police, NHS, schools and benefits cuts to the most vulnerable across the City. Lord Mayor, I make no apology for highlighting the fact that Nottingham has lost £100million in government grants since 2013. In total, we have had to make more than £268million savings in that time. As councillors we need to speak up for our City and the challenges our citizens face on a daily basis. If we don't speak up for the people for Nottingham, no one will. Lord Mayor, these difficult times have led to challenges in delivering on our ambitious commitments to the City. However we never use that as an excuse. That is why, over the last four years, we have been able to deliver in full on 178 out of the 202 commitments we made in our last manifesto. Since 2015 members on this side of the Chamber have completed 20,000 individual pieces of casework; we have ensured that almost 90% of children are taught in good or outstanding schools; 2293 homes have been built so that Nottingham people can afford to rent or buy with more underway to meet the target; anti-social behaviour is down by 18% and we continue to work with the police to cut crime which has actually risen over that period mainly due to cuts to the police; Robin Hood Energy has been set up with more than 135,000 customers benefiting from cheaper energy with extra discounts available for Nottingham residents; and a job, training place or further education place has been provided for every 18-24 year old in the City.

You might say, why am I saying all that? Well because, Lord Mayor, Labour councillors care passionately about Nottingham. We hold political office because we want to make the communities we live in better places. We live in Nottingham, we use the services, we come from the community and we want to make sure the Council delivers the best for the people of Nottingham. Being a councillor in Nottingham is not something to be treated lightly. It would be difficult to take on extra responsibilities alongside a full time job and, for some of us, being a councillor and fulfilling our responsibilities here and in our wards is a full time role. Taking on responsibilities requires time, commitment and can't be half-hearted. The citizens of Nottingham deserve that to be the case. Being a councillor with additional responsibility cannot be left to those who have an additional source of income or

those with a partner who can financially support them. It should be open to everyone and chosen on merit not on favourable financial circumstances.

Of course, what would not be appropriate would be for us, as councillors, to set the level of allowances, but that does not happen. The level of Special Responsibility Allowance is set by an Independent Remuneration Panel who rightly consider the additional time and responsibility these roles bring with them. It is right that members who work to deliver the ambitious targets for the City or commit considerable time or effort in doing so receive an appropriate allowance. Because this is not just a pastime or a hobby for our members. We are passionate about delivering on the promises we have made and we think that committing our time to these ambitious targets is something worth doing. Of course, if a member has another source of income and chooses not to receive an allowance that is their choice. At a time when nationally over the last five years we have seen politicians make promises to win elections and then break them when in office. I am confident that our record of delivering on our promises and then letting the Council publish its own assessment of how we have done gives confidence to voters that when we pledge to do something as Labour politicians we will do it.

Notts County Football Club

Councillor Kevin Clarke asked the following question of the Leader of the Council:

Given the troubled situation at Notts County, can the Council assure fans of the club, who are at this time increasingly anxious regarding the Club's future, that they will approach talks with interested parties, as well as the future purchaser, with the best interests of the 157 year old Club at the forefront of their minds?

Councillor David Mellen replied as follows:

Thank you Lord Mayor. Thank you to Councillor Clarke for his question and welcome to his first Council meeting. The situation at Notts County is an issue of great concern to the City Council, a large number of people in the City and beyond. We understand the footballing and financial challenges that the Club faces. However, the Club has a long and proud history in Nottingham and it would be a travesty if this were put at risk. Our interests are in ensuring that Notts County continues to make a major contribution to life in the City and I can absolutely assure you that any discussions we hold on this subject are with this in mind. It is worth noting that while the City Council holds the freehold of Notts County's Meadow Lane Ground the leasehold is held by the Hayden Green Foundation. Over many years they have operated in the best interests of the Club and the wider community and I am sure that they will continue to do so.

Relationships and Sex Education

Councillor Nick Raine asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Early Years, Education and Employment:

Does the Portfolio Holder for Early Years, Education and Employment agree that our Council should support the teaching of inclusive Relationships and Sex Education

which fosters respect, celebrates difference and supports the rights of LGBT+ people to be positively represented and supported in all our schools?

Councillor Neghat Nawaz Khan replied as follows:

Can I thank Councillor Nick Raine for his question. As I said earlier, on 25 June a public statement was signed by 54 councillors that confirmed, across the entire political spectrum, Nottingham's commitment to being a diverse City that celebrates equality, inclusivity and respect. The statement makes clear that good relationship and sex education can equip young people with facts they can trust helping to keep them safe and preventing them from turning to playground gossip or dubious information online.

Relationships and sex education in schools is nothing new. For many years schools have had a legal duty to deliver relationships and sex education lessons. Teachers are experienced in managing relationships and sex education lessons sensitively in an age-appropriate way and they make sure the right conversations are happening at the right stage in children's lives. It is important that children and young people are given the opportunity to explore a range of family and relationship types in a way that is supportive, inclusive and affirms children's different experiences of family life. In modern Britain families come in many different shapes and sizes including same sex parents, single parents, fostering and adoptive parents. Good relationships and sex education teaching and an inclusive school environment should meet the needs of all pupils regardless of their gender identity, disability, sexual orientation, race and faith. The Council, through the Education Directorate, Public Health and Community Cohesion Officers has worked with headteachers, governors, teaching staff and parents to support the provision of excellent relationships and sex education, inclusive relationships and sex education resources and curriculum support. Our schools and academies have demonstrated a clear commitment to ensuring that children and young people who have a diverse family relationship or who identify as LGBT+ are affirmed and supported in their schools. The Council has an active dialogue with representatives of multi-faith groups to ensure that our support and approach to equality, diversity and inclusion is respectful of faith perspectives but operates within the legal framework that underpins the rights of LGBT communities. Recent tensions have clearly demonstrated a lack of understanding amongst communities about the issue of relationships and sex education. Over the summer period I will be talking to our communities about their concerns, myth-busting and ensuring that people have the right information to make an informed decision. I will welcome continued councillor support on this.

Nottingham College

Councillor Jay Hayes asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder of the Leader of the Council:

Is the Leader aware of the ongoing dispute at Nottingham College where staff have been asked to sign new contracts which worsen their pay and conditions? Will he join me in calling for the College to seek an immediate negotiated resolution to this dispute which is in the best interests of staff, students and further education in the City?

Councillor David Mellen replied as follows:

Thank you Lord Mayor. Can I thank Councillor Hayes for his question. We are aware that over the last 12 months Nottingham College has been in consultation with trade unions and its workforce. As the College is run as an independent organisation, we have limited influence and we cannot direct the College to take a particular course of action. However, Nottingham College is a vital partner. I recently met with the College leadership to discuss the ongoing dispute with their employees and urged them to resolve this dispute as soon as possible.

Over the last 10 years, colleges have had to deal with an average funding cut of 30% whilst costs, including those of pensions, have risen dramatically. The level of cuts is something that we as Nottingham City Council understand very well as do the police force, our health services and, more recently, our schools which have started to receive real term cuts. So whilst the contenders for the Conservative Party leadership seek to outdo each other as to who can offer the biggest tax cuts, public services and those that they serve in Nottingham are suffering because of the Government's woeful underfunding of public services here.

I understand that the overarching objective of the College is to achieve agreement on a more flexible, modern employment contract, which ensures all roles are graded and paid in an objective and fair way and at the same time delivers a modern College which is able to meet the skills and demands of local people. Alongside these aims we would urge the College to value their staff, and do everything they can to retain them, many of whom have served this City for many years in our further education colleges. Further Education teachers are not well-paid compared with school teachers, yet preparing our young people for the jobs market is a vital responsibility and we need the very best skilled teachers to carry out this essential task. The job of the trade unions is to protect staff and fight for their interests, and their role in the future of our College is also very important. We support their right to take industrial action when they feel their staff pay and conditions aren't being protected as they feel is happening now.

At a time when the new College Hub building is progressing at Broadmarsh East on a daily basis we need this new opportunity and learning environment to be capturing the excitement of staff and students alike. We need this dispute to be brought to a conclusion as soon as possible. In addition to my meeting with the College leadership some weeks ago, last week I wrote to the College to urge them to keep the negotiations open and work hard with the trade unions to find a resolution which is acceptable to staff, students and the further education of our City.

Early years childcare

Councillor Carole McCulloch asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People:

Could the Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People explain how, at a time when nursery costs are becoming unaffordable for middle and low earning households, many nurseries themselves are struggling to survive: in other words why both the families and nursery providers are being failed by the current system?

Councillor Cheryl Barnard replied as follows:

Thank you Lord Mayor and thank you Councillor McCulloch for raising this important issue. The Government scheme funds nursery hours for children and pays nurseries directly for those hours. The scheme covers 15 hours a week for 38 weeks. This is 570 hours per year, with parents being able to take less hours per week to cover more weeks. For working parents who meet the criteria the 15 hours is increased to 30 hours per week however this again only covers 38 weeks of the year and the rate paid to nurseries is less than £5 per hour and does not cover their costs. This results in parents of children being asked to pay for extras like meals, snacks, drinks and trips and parents having to pay for additional hours to cover the weeks not covered by the schemes and any hours in excess of 30 hours a week to cover them while they are working.

Nurseries are struggling to cover their costs and having to close. I spoke to two local nursery providers who are struggling. The Toy Library in Bulwell, a not for profit organisation, provides a nursery in Snapewood because of high levels of deprivation in that area. They are at risk of closing this nursery as the £4.88 per hour funding they receive for under 2s does not cover their costs. They tell me that it is difficult providing a quality service with current funding and that many nurseries in the private sector survive by using apprentices and cutting staff to child ratios. I also spoke to the manager of Tick Tock nursery in Broxtowe who confirmed that Government funding doesn't cover the service if you want to provide qualified staff and that nurseries are being forced to employ unqualified school leavers as apprentices meaning that the outcomes for children are not as good. Tick Tock is also having to charge £2 per day to cover the five meals and snacks provided and say that this is much lower than that charged by other nurseries. Both nurseries have told me that recruitment and retention of staff is difficult due to the low rates of pay that they can offer. In the first year of the increase to 30 hours funded places the National Day Nurseries Association found that 123 nurseries closed compared to 73 closures the previous year. This is an increase of 66%. There has also been a significant decrease in the number of childminders with the loss of 1000 childminders in the last 4 months of 2018 as they too have been affected by the rate paid for places.

Early intervention is crucial to improving the life chances of children and that is why Nottingham City Council is proud to have invested £45million in the Small Steps Big Changes programme and why the Council is committed to ensuring that at least 75% of eligible two year olds access free nursery provision. Nottingham City Council has a proud record of investing in early years by delivering 150,000 free books to more than 5000 children as part of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library; 560 'stay and play' sessions in communities across Nottingham; investing £45million in early intervention in St Anns, Arboretum, Bulwell and Aspley through the Small Steps Big Changes programme; and we have retained all our 18 children's centres across the City despite enormous financial pressure. The independent research agency Ceeda published research in June 2019 and they found that 17% of childcare providers in the most deprived areas of England anticipate closure in the next year. Only 8% in the most affluent areas face such as prospect. The current Government scheme is inadequate. What is needed is a properly funded service that covers the whole year and is paid at a realistic hourly rate. This is the situation facing parents and nurseries in our area. We need to support them and challenge the Government to provide realistic funding.

World War 1 Memorial

Councillor Zafran Khan asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Culture and IT:

Does the Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Culture and IT share my pride about the completion of the new WW1 Memorial at Victoria Embankment?

Councillor Dave Trimble replied as follows:

Thank you Lord Mayor and can I thank Councillor Zafran Khan for his question. I do indeed share your pride in the completion of this very moving memorial. I cannot though take the credit for it. I was on my way to a Nottingham Labour canvassing session in the summer of 2017 with Jon Collins, ex-leader of the Council, and he told me of his idea of a new memorial with the names of everyone on it that gave their lives in the First World War. A feasibility study was then explored and a number of possibilities for how this could be done. In terms of displaying the names, different options were considered from digital projections to online rolls of honour and even a feasibility study of adding the names to the existing memorial. After a visit I paid to the National Arboretum Memorial the decision was made to commission a new memorial. The clear advice given by the Director of the Arboretum and military organisations was to definitely not put any names on it. When I told him of this, Jon Collins said that we already have a memorial without any names on it, adding names was the point of this and therefore that was what we were going to do. Our confidence regarding the names was based on the knowledge of the Trent to Trenches project that started in 2013 that was both a City and County Council project to mark the centenary of the start of the First World War. A team of volunteer researchers worked on the production of the roll of honour for Trent to Trenches. The Parks Department started putting together a partnership with the County Council and other interested parties. As it was not possible to distinguish if people were from within the City boundary or outside the City boundary, in Arnold or Netherfield for example, as the records were not always consistent we decided to try and do a county-wide memorial.

The memorial features the names of nearly 14,000 people from the City and the County who lost their lives in the 1914-18 War including civilian casualties. It was to be a memorial for all. It includes two people killed in the zeppelin air raid on the City in September 1916. The 134 civilians killed included many women at the Chilwell munitions factory explosion of July 2018. It also lists those that were shot at dawn. Space has been left for any new names that we may become aware of in the future. An international design competition was launched and a Nottingham based company Letts Wheeler Architects won that contract. The construction was carried out by East Midlands businesses and it was project managed by our very own staff. Co-funding came from the City and County Councils with contributions from all 7 district councils in the county. The project also received donations from a number of associations, parish councils, community groups and local businesses as well as public subscriptions and collections at events and even some City Councillors' own ward budgets. There was also an online giving platform hosted by the Nottingham Open Spaces Forum. So a big thank you to all of those.

There was a very moving official opening ceremony held a week ago which the Leader of the Council spoke at. I live very close to it and go past it almost on a daily basis and it is very clear to see that the memorial is proving to be very popular with the public. The memorial is also thought to be the first of its kind in the country with all the names in one place in such as big city and county. It is one that we should all be proud of. So can I say a huge thank you to City Council Team who delivered it; and to the Trent to Trenches Team for their fantastic research. I would like to say a thank you to ex-councillor Brian Grocock, who is in the public gallery today, both for his unstinting services as the Council's Armed Forces Champion for very many years and for his dedication and commitment to this memorial too. Also thanks to Jon Collins who not only thought of the idea in the first instance but was also key to delivering it, even though I know he would really dislike being singled out.

Homelessness Prevention Strategy

Councillor Andrew Rule asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Planning and Heritage:

The Portfolio Holder will be aware that part of the City Council's Homelessness Prevention Strategy includes provision for rough sleepers being rehoused in void Nottingham City Homes properties. Can she outline what assessments are carried out to ensure that the appropriate support networks are in place to assist these individuals with the transition process from sleeping rough on the street to being rehoused?

Councillor Linda Woodings replied as follows:

Thank you Lord Mayor, and thank you Councillor Rule for your question. As you are no doubt aware the City's Homelessness Prevention Strategy has tackling rough sleeping as one of its key objectives. It recognises that the solution to the problem is often to help individuals into stable accommodation and deliver intensive support in order to sustain the tenancy, support greater independence and stop the cycle of homelessness and reoccurrence of complex problems which many rough sleepers experience. The Council, working in partnership with Nottingham City Homes and other local housing providers, seeks to halve the number of rough sleepers in the City by November 2019 to 17, and that would be down from 34 in 2018. Via our 'no first night out' approach we want to ensure that no one needs to sleep rough in Nottingham. Recently the Council bid successfully for funding via the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government's Rough Sleeper Initiative and funding was secured to assist with the move on of rough sleepers moving out of supported accommodation and into the community. Support is provided by our strategic partner Framework. In addition, there are two 'housing first' schemes at a very early stage within the City. 'Housing first' is a scheme that has been incredibly successful in countries like Canada, America and Finland. It is a very Ronseal kind of project. You sort out the housing first, and once somebody is in a home you deliver the wrap around support to help them come back into the community. Our first 'housing first' scheme is delivered by Opportunity Nottingham and it delivers intensive support to rough sleepers being helped into accommodation. It is funded by the Big Lottery. We also have a 'housing first' project being led by Framework. In all cases prior to individuals being housed, a four-week plan is agreed with that person who must be willing to participate and both parties must agree that they are ready to move on.

Support packages are bespoke to the individual's needs, however following the successful transition to permanent housing support will include home visits to ensure transition to permanent housing; health and wellbeing assessments prior to and during the tenancy, and they are mental and physical health and wellbeing assessments; applying for Universal Credit and budgetary support assistance; tenancy-ready support such as money management, simple things like cooking skills, how to do your washing and get your washing out; relationship support and that's relationship support with your landlord, your neighbours and your friends; and assistance and advocacy. In addition to the 'housing first' schemes, our emergency night shelter staff also support rough sleepers. They have helped 153 people find secure homes as well as setting up support plans, referring people to other agencies and supporting people after they have been housed as well. In order to support our rough sleeper schemes Nottingham City Homes is creating a co-ordinator post and that is someone who will work alongside the support workers to provide additional assurance of support across the tenancies being created in this way.

Robin Hood Energy

Councillor Andrew Rule asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Growth and the City Centre:

Following the additional financial support provided to Robin Hood Energy at the end of last year, can the Portfolio Holder provide an update on whether he believes any additional support will be required going forward?

Councillor Sam Webster replied as follows:

The Council approves investments based on a business case. At this current time no further investment has been considered or approved. If the Council makes a decision to invest further in Robin Hood Energy I can assure Councillor Rule that he will be one of the first to know.

Solar panels

Councillor Andrew Rule asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Planning and Heritage:

The Portfolio Holder will be aware earlier in the year that the City Council had to spend over £104,000 replacing inverters on solar panels installed on residential properties owned by the Council, between 2016 and 2018, after it transpired no income was being generated from the panels. Whilst I appreciate she was not Portfolio Holder at the time the initial work was undertaken; can she nevertheless tell the Chamber what processes have been put in place to ensure that should similar issues arise in the future they don't go unnoticed for so long?

Councillor Linda Woodings replied as follows:

Thank you Lord Mayor, and thank you Councillor Rule for your question. The scheme referenced in your question was delivered in 2012/13 by Nottingham City Homes and prior to the Energy Services Division that we now have in place. A complete review of all of our energy assets was delivered in 2017 by the new Solar

Projects Team within Energy Services and that review has ensured all assets are operating at optimum performance across both the domestic and commercial solar photo voltaic assets that we own and operate. In addition, we have performance monitoring software in place now to pick up under-performance within 24 hours. Despite this problem, Nottingham City Council has been one of the most prolific adopters of solar power in the country. We have installed panels on public buildings, including our libraries, our leisure centres, schools and offices all of which generated significant generation patterns this year. As well as generating clean electricity for our buildings, there are financial benefits of self-generation which help plug our budget gap and protect frontline services to the tune of some £300,000 per year. In December 2018 the Council alone topped 1million kilo watt hours from our solar panel schemes and, as you have referenced in your question, we have also subsidised the installation of solar panels on 4,500 domestic properties. That means that those households have benefitted from the free and green electricity generated. The installation costs are more than covered because of the feed-in tariffs and extra income is generated for the Council because of that.

27 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19

Councillor Anne Peach, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, submitted the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report detailing the work of the scrutiny committees during 2018/19.

RESOLVED to accept the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2018/19.

28 DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER URGENCY PROCEDURES

Councillor David Mellen, Leader of the Council, submitted a report detailing decisions taken under procedures that include exemption from Overview and Scrutiny Call In Procedure Rules and Special Urgency Access to Information Rules.

RESOLVED to note

**(1) that there were no urgent decisions (exempt from call in) to be reported;
and**

(2) the Key Decision taken under special urgency procedures:

Decision Reference Number	Date of Decision	Subject	Value of Decision	Reason for Special Urgency
3524	9 May 2019	Transfer of D2N2 Accountable Body status for Growing Places Fund and Enterprise Zones to Derbyshire County Council	£15,000,000	The Accountable Body status needed to be transferred in a timely manner

29 **MOTION**

Moved by Councillor Linda Woodings, seconded by Councillor Nick Raine:

This Council welcomes the Government consultation to revoke Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988 that allows private landlords to evict tenants without reason. The threat of a no-fault eviction causes insecurity and stress for Nottingham households who rent privately, and in particular it penalises the children of such households who miss out on the wealth of benefits that secure housing delivers for their development and life chances.

Consequently this Council welcomes the action taken by the Scottish Government to restrict no-fault evictions. It further resolves to back the campaign to abolish Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988 by lobbying the Government and by submitting evidence to the formal consultation in support of this change in the law.

RESOLVED to carry the motion.

30 **MOTION**

Motion proposed by Councillor Kevin Clarke, seconded by Councillor Maria Watson:

The month of June is traditionally recognised as LGBT+ Pride Month and on 27 July Nottingham will host its annual Nottinghamshire Pride event seeing thousands gather in the City Centre for a day-long celebration that includes a colourful parade around our City.

At a time when hate crimes directed at the LGBT+ community are on the increase nationally, (rising by 144% per capita since 2013-14 – with just under half of these being violent attacks) and with homophobic leaflets being distributed to Nottingham residents over the past month, it is important now more than ever that Nottingham City Council stands in solidarity with the LGBT+ community.

The Full Council meeting held on 20 May 2019 saw the adoption of the Labour Manifesto as the basis for Council policy until 2023. Whilst this document rightly celebrated the diversity of our City, it omitted to provide express support for Nottingham's wider LGBT+ community and the challenges that they face.

This Council resolves to:

- support Nottingham's LGBT+ community in the battle against hate and intolerance, by providing a strong and united voice against homophobia;
- ensure that the Council provides the LGBT+ community with facilities at a local level, enabling people to receive support where they need it;
- condemn recent protests held across the country that opposed the introduction of inclusive education programmes within schools, designed to teach equality;
- provide support to Nottingham schools that teach the inclusive education programme and work with them to ensure that this can be done in a safe and supporting environment free from the threat of intolerance.

The following amendment was moved by Councillor Angharad Roberts and seconded by Councillor Rebecca Langton:

(text struck through deleted and text in italics added)

~~The month of June is traditionally recognised as LGBT+ Pride Month and on 27 July Nottingham will host its annual Nottinghamshire Pride event seeing thousands gather in the City Centre for a day long celebration that includes a colourful parade around our City.~~

On 27 July we once again welcome Notts Pride Parade to Nottingham. It is its 10th anniversary and this year the parade will be led by under-represented groups from the BAME community. Pride shows us that a community can decide to fight for its future.

At a time when hate crimes directed at the LGBT+ community are on an increase nationally, (~~rising by 144% per capita since 2013/14 with just under half of these being violent attacks~~) and more recently and more locally, with homophobic leaflets being distributed to Nottingham residents ~~over the past month~~, it is important ~~now more than ever~~ that Nottingham City Council ~~stands~~ recommits to standing in solidarity with the LGBT+ community.

~~The Full Council meeting held on 20 May 2019 saw the adoption of the Labour Manifesto as the basis for Council policy until 2023. Whilst this document rightly celebrated the diversity of our City, it omitted to provide express support for Nottingham's wider LGBT+ community and the challenges that they face.~~

Pride is about coming together in celebration, protest, unity and solidarity and Nottingham City Council is proud to be a partner with Notts Pride for the annual Pride Parade in the City Centre and, since 2018, Pride in Bulwell. Pride is a significant event in the City's cultural life that brings thousands of people on to the streets of Nottingham to participate and watch the parade, and to enjoy a day of events and activities with their friends, families and fellow citizens.

However, whilst we will all come together for a celebration, it is also the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots and the 20th anniversary of the Admiral Duncan bombing and we should remember the journey that Pride represents for the LGBT+ community.

In addition to partnering Nottinghamshire Pride, Nottingham City Council has a proud record of support for the LGBT+ community by:

- *LGBT History Month events across the City;*
- *providing practical support, funding and resources to LGBT+ organisations and community support groups;*
- *working with partners to improve mental health services for the LGBT+ community;*
- *encouraging input into Council decision making through the LGBT+ scrutiny group, with participants from the public sector and community groups;*
- *being a Stonewall Top 100 Employer, with a Highly Commended staff network, supporting LGBT+ equality in the workplace and leading by example through inclusive policies and employment practices;*

- *leading the way in inclusive education, including city-wide celebrations of the first Relationships and Sex Education Day on 27 June*
- *from Pride to Sikhs on the Square, Black History Month, South Asian Cultural Festival, St Georges Day, International Women's Day and International Day Against Homophobia, Biophobia and Transphobia this Council is committed to equality, inclusiveness and respect for all in all its services and functions.*

~~This Council resolves to:~~

- ~~support Nottingham's LGBT+ community in the battle against hate and intolerance, by providing a strong and united voice against homophobia;~~
- ~~ensure that the Council provides the LGBT+ community with facilities at a local level, enabling people to receive support where they need it;~~
- ~~condemn recent protests held across the country that opposed the introduction of inclusive education programmes within schools, designed to teach equality;~~
- ~~provide support to Nottingham schools that teach the inclusive education programme and work with them to ensure that this can be done in a safe and supporting environment free from the threat of intolerance.~~

Nottingham City Council acknowledges the challenges which remain for Nottingham's LGBT+ community and resolves to continue to:

- *support the No Bystander programme, empowering people to stand with each other in confronting hate and intolerance;*
- *develop local support for the LGBT+ community, including advice services, mental and general health provision and employment and education opportunities;*
- *lead the way nationally in inclusive teaching, especially of relationship and sex education, ensuring all children can feel safe, included and happy at school;*
- *strengthen engagement and interaction between communities through the Nottingham Together programme.*

Councillors voted on the proposed amendment.

RESOLVED to carry the amendment.

Councillors voted on the amended motion.

RESOLVED to carry the motion as amended.

31 MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

The following committee membership changes were noted:

- (1) Councillor Andrew Rule has been appointed to replace Councillor Kirsty Jones as a member of the Trusts and Charities Committee; and
- (2) Councillor Roger Steel has been appointed as a substitute member of the Trusts and Charities Committee.

The Meeting concluded at 5.00 pm

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Council 8 July 2019

Responses to Written Councillor Questions

WQ1

WRITTEN QUESTION TO BE ASKED BY COUNCILLOR NICOLA HEATON OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ADULT CARE AND LOCAL TRANSPORT AT THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON 8 JULY 2019

Can the Portfolio Holder for Adult Care and Local Transport provide an update on the latest figures of tram usage in Nottingham?

Response from the Portfolio Holder for Adult Care and Local Transport:

Thank you for your question about the number of users on Nottingham's tram system. I'm delighted to be able to confirm that 18.8 million journeys took place on the system in the year to March 2019, which is up from 17.8 million in the previous financial year.

These figures clearly reflect the growing popularity of the tram as part of a comprehensive public transport network across the city, with recent investment being made to improve reliability and the customer experience. With very frequent services, good value fares and free park and ride sites, the NET system has been well received by the travelling public and is going from strength to strength.

WQ2

WRITTEN QUESTION TO BE ASKED BY COUNCILLOR ANDREW RULE OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL/ PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR REGENERATION, SAFETY AND COMMUNICATIONS AT THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON 8 JULY 2019

Could the Portfolio Holder outline the process employed when the Council disposes of property; and can he provide reassurances that all properties are sold on the open market and all interested parties are given the opportunity to view the properties and make an offer should they wish to do so?

Response from the Leader of the Council/ Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Safety and Communications:

Under the Local Government Act 1972 local authorities have powers to dispose of property in any manner they wish, subject to certain constraints which may include a requirement to obtain the consent of the Secretary of State. Under Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 principal councils have a duty not to sell land for a consideration less than the best consideration reasonably obtainable unless the Secretary of State's consent has been obtained. However, the Local Government Act 1972: General Disposal Consent (England) 2003 gives a general consent provided that any undervalue of the interest does not exceed £2 million and the

transaction is considered by the local authority to help secure the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of its area.

In accordance with The Local Authority Act 1972 this Council adopts three main routes to market:

1. Private Treaty – mainly used for “off market” sales, i.e. to incumbent commercial tenants, special purchasers, adjoining land owners.
NB. The General Disposal Consent (England) 2003 allows a local authority to sell for less than best consideration if the sale enables development for social, economic or environmental uses.
2. Formal/Informal Tender – this method is generally used for the sale of properties in the open market particularly where planning permission to redevelop is required, or where the Council wishes to ensure the future use of the land or property conforms to Council policy or statute. This method of sale sometimes takes the form of a procurement exercise if a very specific requirement needs to be delivered;
3. Auction – often used when properties are in poor condition or a clearly defined marketing and sale timeframe is to be adhered to.

All offers are recorded either electronically, or manually in the case of tender, when they are recorded in the Department’s ‘tender book’. Auction reserves are set by the Director of Strategic Assets and Property, and are recorded by way of a delegated decision form.

Subject to the chosen method of sale, the majority of disposals are marketed and negotiated in house by officers within Strategic Assets and Property. Properties placed on the open market for sale by Private Treaty or Tender are advertised on the Nottingham Property Plus website and Rightmove (a national website for the marketing of commercial and residential property). In addition Property have a list of over 100 local and national developers and agents to which appropriate property particulars are sent. In addition properties are advertised in the local, and if appropriate, national press and, again where appropriate, a ‘for sale’ board will be placed on the property.

WQ3

WRITTEN QUESTION TO BE ASKED BY COUNCILLOR ANDREW RULE OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR HOUSING, PLANNING AND HERITAGE AT THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON 8 JULY 2019

Following the Grenfell Tragedy the Council sent surveys to the owners of all high rise property in the City. Can the Portfolio Holder confirm whether the results of these surveys are publicly available?

Response from the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Planning and Heritage:

The information was collected only for the purpose of identifying the buildings that were deemed to have a flammable ACM cladding material similar to that in Grenfell. The Authority has constantly been monitoring the buildings that were identified as having issues. The information collected has not been made publically available as it

has been deemed that it lead to buildings and in turn their occupants being in a more vulnerable position.

WQ4

WRITTEN QUESTION TO BE ASKED BY COUNCILLOR ANDREW RULE OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR HOUSING, PLANNING AND HERITAGE AT THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON 8 JULY 2019

Will the Portfolio Holder lobby Nottingham City Homes to review the overly prescriptive criteria they apply for how Environmental Fund monies can be spent; where as an example under the current criteria funds can be used to improve lighting, but cannot be used to make Nottingham City Homes managed complexes more secure through the addition of CCTV?

Response from the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Planning and Heritage:

There are a number of housing budgets which can be used to support environmental improvements including CCTV installation. These include:

- The environmental works budget referred to in the question (£1,163,000 city wide in the current year).
- The Area Capital Fund, which is delegated to local Councillors to determine how best to spend in their area, . This is £1.0m in the current year and is allocated to each ward based on the number of council properties in each ward. For Clifton West this equates £17,700.
- A budget line specifically for CCTV. This is currently £200,000 pa city wide.

Nottingham City Homes is arranging to meet with Councillor Rule to discuss what the local issues are that need resolution and how they can best be of assistance. It may be that by considering the wider range of funding available they will be able to find practical solutions from within the budget lines currently available.

With regard to the environmental works budget specifically, this is currently targeted at the following areas of work as priorities:

Area of Work	Examples
Improve Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Door Entry • Lighting • Fencing • Garage Site Works
Improve the Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dealing with Graffiti • Reducing anti-social behaviour • Parking issues • Drying area resurfacing
Spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of community facilities / area • Seating • Allotments (Housing Land Only)

Nottingham City Homes (NCH) is happy to review these criteria and will consult with the Council and tenants to ensure it is best targeted to address future priorities.

Environmental works funding to projects delivered in Clifton over the last year include:

Address	Request	Reason	Cost
Spydon Walk	Install knee rail fencing to the green spaces	To alleviate issues with unauthorised parking and causing damage to the grass areas	£5,650.00
Farnborough Road parking scheme	NCH contribution for Farnborough Road parking scheme	Provide parking for customers on housing land to limit the number of cars parking on Farnborough Rd.	£30,000
Lakehead House	Community Garden Improvements	Create improved communal garden space for customers providing beds for plants and growing vegetables.	£15,522
Lakehead House	Fencing to provide security	Bow top fencing to be installed at the side of the ramped access to prevent access and loitering in front of the block.	£922
Branford Ave	Garage door replacement	Replace garage doors that have reached end of life.	£6,168
Yewdale Close	Parking scheme	Alleviate and improve parking issues in this area.	£25,000

14 – 16 Fallow Close	Erect gates and install external post boxes	Eliminate unauthorised access and provide 4 external post boxes for residents	£1,802
Dell Way	Create a landscaped finish to the car parking area and the nearby waste land	The area currently looks unfinished and untidy and needs improving to rejuvenate this area of the ward.	£39,164.34
Southchurch Court	Installation of 10 bike racks	Residents need a safe and secure storage facility for their bikes	£2,750.00
Branford Garage Site	Installation of new metal bow top fencing to replace the current palisade fencing to the outer perimeter	Palisade fencing can pose a risk due to the sharp finial and the garage site is subject to improvement works in the form of replacing the garage doors so the new fencing will compliment these works	£15,370.00

WRITTEN QUESTION TO BE ASKED BY COUNCILLOR ANDREW RULE OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ADULT CARE AND LOCAL TRANSPORT AT THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON 8 JULY 2019

Will the Portfolio Holder outline the milestones and timescales for the establishment of the Adult Social Care Company, as referred to in the Nottingham Labour's manifesto?

Response from Portfolio Holder for Adult Care and Local Transport:

Thanks for your interest in the establishment of a Nottingham care company.

I am very excited about this development, as it will have a positive impact on both citizens who need adult social care and those who work with them. This is sensitive and vital work that our citizens rely on and we want the best possible working conditions for those working in the care sector and the highest standards of care for our citizens.

We anticipate the completion of the outline business case during 2019/20. This will then guide the timescales for establishment of the company.
