

A meeting of the Council will be held in the Civic Hall, Leeds on Wednesday, 19th November, 2008 at 1.30 pm

Members of the Council are invited to attend and transact the following business:

1. Minutes

To confirm the minutes of the Council Meetings held on 10th September 2008

2. Declarations of Interest

To receive any declarations of interest from Members

3. Communications

To receive such communications as the Lord Mayor, the Leader, Members of the Executive Board or the Chief Executive consider appropriate

4. Deputations

To receive deputations in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10

5. Reports

To consider the following report admitted to the agenda by the Chief Executive under Council Procedure Rule 2.2(f))

- a) That the report of the Assistant Chief Executive(Corporate Governance) on appointments be approved.

J PROCTER

6. Questions

To deal with questions in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11

7. Recommendations of the Executive Board

To consider the report of the Assistant Chief Executive(Corporate Governance) presenting to Council a recommendation of the Executive Board in respect of the Financial Health Monitoring 2008/09 – Half Year Report.

R BRETT

8. Recommendations of the Constitutional Proposals Committee

To consider the report of the Assistant Chief Executive(Corporate Governance) on recommendations of the Constitutional Proposals Committee in relation to the establishment of a General Purposes Committee, procedures for changing the form of the executive and amendments to the Call In process.

R BRETT

9. Minutes

To receive the minutes in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2(o)

10. White Paper - Regional Spatial Strategy

That this Council believes that the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) targets of 4740 should be suspended with immediate effect due to the economic challenges this city currently faces.

This Council notes the housing crisis in this city and resolves to look at innovative ways of tackling this problem by adopting a plan of action that includes:-

- Approaching local developers to see whether unsold properties can be leased by the local authority or local housing associations.
- Working with local housing associations to ensure they maximise Leeds' share of the funding available through the Government's recent rescue package.
- Working with owners of empty flats in the city centre to bring them into use for key workers and others in housing need.
- Ensuring owner occupiers at risk of losing their homes receive high quality advice, including warnings about unscrupulous finance companies.
- Lobbying central government to introduce more security and tenant protection in the private rented sector.

R LEWIS

11. White Paper Motion - Policing Green Paper

That this Council notes with concern recommendations in the policing green paper which propose the direct election of individuals specifically and uniquely for the purpose of joining the Police Authority.

The Council recognises that increased police accountability and scrutiny will promote greater public confidence in both local and national policing. However, the Council also recognises that councillors play a vital role in establishing visible links between local people and the police, and do so with a thorough knowledge of wider neighbourhood issues.

We therefore call upon the Chief Executive to write to the Home Secretary and express that we are:

- Opposed to the election of individuals specifically for the purpose of joining the police authority as referred to in the green paper.
- Concerned that joined up approaches to tackling neighbourhood issues will

be undermined if individually elected bodies become responsible for single local authority departments.

- Convinced that councillors on the Police Authority play a vital role in representing the views of local people on a real range of issues.

R LEWIS

12. White Paper Motion - Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment

This council expresses its concern at the Government imposed requirement for all Local Planning Authorities to compile a Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment – Call for sites (SHLAA).

Noting Government advice, Local Planning Authorities cannot exclude green belt, greenfield sites or any other land protected by Council policy from the assessment.

This Council reinforces its commitment to vigorously protect its green heritage and to continue working within its established planning policies. It condemns the enforced stealth tactics employed by the Government which seeks to undermine the local planning policy which protects such areas of land and calls on the Government to reassess its unsustainable housing targets.

This council is also concerned that the SHLAA will raise false aspirations and may be misinterpreted by some that all land contained can be potentially built upon. Therefore the SHLAA for Leeds must state that it's contents will not determine land allocated for housing development or undermine the Council's pre-approved policies.

A CARTER

13. White Paper Motion - Backdating of Housing and Council Tax Benefit and Tax Credits

This Council deplores the decision implemented on 6th October 2008 to reduce the 12 months period previously allowed for the backdating of Housing and Council Tax Benefits and Tax Credits.

It, therefore, requests the Chief Executive to:

- 1) Write to the Secretary of State for Works & Pensions requesting that the decision is reversed.
- 2) Write to all Leeds MPs urging them to support our call for this reversal.

A BLACKBURN

14. White Paper Motion Submitted Under the Provisions of Council Procedure Rule 3.1(d) - Leeds Rhinos

That this Council congratulates both players and staff of Leeds Rhinos' on their historic two in a row Grand Final success.

Furthermore this Council underlines its commitment to providing the Rhinos with a Civic celebration worthy of their achievements at a suitable time for all parties.

K PARKER

15. White Paper Motion Submitted Under the Provisions of Council Procedure Rule 3.1(d) - Minimum Size Standards for Family Homes

This Council notes with concern that England and Wales are the only countries in Western Europe without minimum size standards for family homes. This has led to British Social Housing being on average 30% smaller than the equivalent on the continent. This council calls upon the government to introduce minimum size standards in Britain for family homes.

J MONAGHAN

Chief Executive

Civic Hall
Leeds
LS1 1UR

NOTE – The order in which White Paper motions will be debated will be determined by Whips prior to the meeting