

A meeting of the Council will be held in the Civic Hall, Leeds on Wednesday, 20th January, 2010 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 18th November 2009.

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 reports as follows (the Monitoring Officer considers that these reports are appropriate to be received at this meeting in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2(f)):-

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

S BENTLEY

- (b) That the report of the Director of Resources on the calculation of the Council Tax Base for 2010/2011 for the purpose of calculating the Council Tax be approved.

A CARTER

6. Questions

To deal with questions in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11

7. Recommendations of the Executive Board

That the report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance) on recommendations of the Executive Board in relation to a Key Decision taken under Special Urgency Provisions be approved

A CARTER

8. Minutes

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

A CARTER

9. White Paper Motion - Leeds Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan

Council welcomes the Leeds Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan, but recognises that it does not go far enough in reducing CO₂ emissions and does not, as yet, commit the city to the actions that are needed.

Council therefore calls on the Executive Board:

- 1) To introduce a target of reducing CO₂ emissions by an annual rate of 10% per year for the city as a whole, i.e. an overall reduction of around 65% between 2010 and 2020 against a 2005 baseline.
- 2) To provide quarterly updates on performance against the target.

A BLACKBURN

10. White Paper Motion - Ofsted Inspection of Children's Services

This Council expresses its deep concern at the findings of Ofsted's recent announced inspection of Leeds City Council's Children's Services department.

Council is alarmed about Ofsted's disturbing conclusions, which follow similarly damning comments arising from an unannounced inspection of the department last year, which found that out of a sample of 23 children case files, seven children were found to be at potential risk of serious harm. Further reports have highlighted that a third of the indicators we are judged against have been deemed to be inadequate. This underlines the concern of everyone in the city over the safeguarding and well-being of our most vulnerable children.

Council affirms that the safeguarding of children should receive the highest priority, and that this Council has once again failed to fulfil this most vital of responsibilities.

Furthermore, Council condemns Executive Board member for Children's Services Cllr Stewart Golton, and previous incumbents in the role Councillors Richard Brett and Brian Jennings for their continued failure to tackle key weaknesses within the department.

Council therefore resolves that:

1. An urgent report on Ofsted's inspection be brought to an extraordinary meeting of the Executive Board as soon as possible.
2. In order to ensure full and transparent accountability, Children's Services Scrutiny Board should be chaired by a member of the opposition.

L MULHERIN

11. White Paper Motion - Leeds Kirkgate Market

This Council underlines its commitment to Leeds Kirkgate Market and all markets across the city. Council notes that some progress has been made at Kirkgate Market recently, but recognises a lot of hard work still needs to be done to address a wide-range of challenging and critical issues.

Council also acknowledges the important role that traders play in Kirkgate Market, and resolves therefore to do everything in its power to save and preserve this vital retail asset in our city.

M DOBSON

12. White Paper Motion - Public Spending and Democratic Accountability

This Council notes that over £7 billion of public spending takes place in the Leeds District on an annual basis.

Council further notes that less than 10% of this public spending is raised locally and that this causes major problems in terms of public accountability as well as creating a democratic deficit.

Council therefore supports moves to improve democratic accountability at a local level through:-

- return of business rates to local authority control
- less interference by central government in regional funding decisions
- more powers of scrutiny over regional bodies and the health service
- continuing development of Leeds City Region

Council recognises the negative impact this government has had on democratic accountability and further recognises the impact that proposed government cuts will have on frontline services in Leeds. As a result of the poor deal given to Leeds in the current CSR and the economic forecast for the coming years this council concludes that a new approach is needed to local government both in Leeds and nationally.

Council asks the Chief Executive to write to Gordon Brown and Leeds MPs and all MEPs serving the Leeds area asking them in the light of the "total place initiative" to support measures that would improve democratic accountability in Leeds.

R BRETT

13. White Paper Motion Submitted Under the Provisions of Council Procedure Rule 3.1(d) - Public Open Spaces and Playing Pitches

This Council underlines its commitment to providing recreational open space and playing pitches for residents right across the city. Council notes the particularly acute shortage of such recreational space within 3 miles of the city centre, and recognises the massive blow to the local community if the playing fields located on the former Leeds Girls High site were to be lost.

Council therefore pledges to do all it can to increase the total area of public recreational land in the city, and vigorously protect all playing pitches designated under UDP policy N6 from non-recreational built development.

J ILLINGWORTH

**14. White Paper Motion Submitted under the Provisions of Council Procedure
Rule 3.1(d) - Leeds Arena Scheme**

This Council congratulates Leeds Labour MP's on their efforts in securing £9.9m of funding to help develop the arena scheme in our city.

Council welcomes this financial support from the Government again, and looks forward to the inward investment, regeneration and jobs this project will deliver in our city

R LEWIS

Chief Executive

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