

Proceedings of the Meeting of the Leeds City Council held  
Civic Hall, Leeds on Wednesday, 18th January, 2012

**PRESENT:** The Lord Mayor Councillor Reverend Alan Leonard Taylor in the  
Chair

**WARD**

**ADEL & WHARFEDALE**

John Leslie Carter  
Clive Fox  
Barry John Anderson

**ALWOODLEY**

Dan Cohen  
Peter Mervyn Harrand

**ARDSLEY & ROBIN HOOD**

Jack Dunn  
Lisa Mulherin  
Karen Renshaw

**ARMLEY**

James McKenna  
Janet Harper  
Alison Natalie Kay Lowe

**BEESTON & HOLBECK**

Adam Ogilvie  
David Congreve

**BRAMLEY & STANNINGLEY**

Ted Hanley  
Neil Taggart

**BURMANTOFTS & RICHMOND HILL**

Asghar Khan  
Ron Grahame  
Ralph Pryke

**WARD**

**CALVERLEY & FARSLEY**

Joseph William Marjoram  
Rod Wood  
Andrew Carter

**CHAPEL ALLERTON**

Mohammed Rafique  
Jane Dowson  
Eileen Taylor

**CITY & HUNSLET**

Patrick Davey  
Mohammed Iqbal  
Elizabeth Nash

**CROSS GATES & WHINMOOR**

Pauleen Grahame  
Peter John Gruen  
Suzi Armitage

**FARNLEY & WORTLEY**

Ann Blackburn  
John Hamilton Hardy

**GARFORTH & SWILLINGTON**

Mark Dobson  
Thomas Murray  
Andrea McKenna

**GIPTON & HAREHILLS**

Arif Hussain  
Kamila Maqsood

**GUISELEY & RAWDON**

Paul Wadsworth  
Pat Latty  
Graham Latty

**HAREWOOD**

Rachael Procter  
Matthew James Robinson  
Ann Castle

**HEADINGLEY**

Neil Walshaw  
Martin Hamilton  
Jamie Matthews

**HORSFORTH**

Dawn Collins  
Brian Cleasby  
Christopher Townsley

**HYDE PARK & WOODHOUSE**

Gerry Harper  
Javaid Akhtar  
Penny Ewens

**KILLINGBECK & SEACROFT**

Veronica Morgan  
Brian Michael Selby  
Graham Hyde

**KIPPAX & METHLEY**

James Lewis  
Keith Ivor Wakefield  
John Keith Parker

**KIRKSTALL**

John Anthony Illingworth  
Bernard Peter Atha  
Lucinda Joy Yeadon

**MIDDLETON PARK**

Judith Blake  
Kim Groves  
Geoffrey Driver

**MOORTOWN**

Sharon Hamilton  
Mark Daniel Harris

**MORLEY NORTH**

Robert William Gettings  
Thomas Leadley  
Robert Finnigan

**MORLEY SOUTH**

Neil Dawson  
Shirley Varley  
Judith Elliott

**OTLEY & YEADON**

Colin Campbell  
Ryk Downes  
Graham Peter Kirkland

**PUDSEY**

Richard Alwyn Lewis  
Mick Coulson  
Josephine Patricia Jarosz

**ROTHWELL**

Karen Bruce  
Barry Stewart Golton  
Donald Michael Wilson

**ROUNDHAY**

Christine McNiven  
Ghulam Hussain  
Matthew Loble

**TEMPLE NEWSAM**

Katherine Mitchell  
Michael Lyons  
William Schofield Hyde

**WEETWOOD**

Susan Bentley  
Judith Mara Chapman  
Ben Chastney

**WETHERBY**

Alan James Lamb  
John Michael Procter  
Gerald Wilkinson

## **75 Announcements**

- a) The Lord Mayor welcomed Catherine Witham the City Solicitor to her first meeting of Council.
- b) The Lord Mayor reported that Councillor Charlwood had recently given birth to a baby girl and Council passed on their best wishes to Councillor Charlwood.
- c) The Lord Mayor congratulated Councillor A Castle on her selection as Lord Mayor elect.
- d) The Lord Mayor also reminded Council that the Red Heart Day Charity event would be taking place on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2012.

## **76 Minutes**

It was moved by Councillor J Lewis, seconded by Councillor Lobley and

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the two meetings held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2011 and the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2011 be approved.

## **77 Declarations of Interest**

The Lord Mayor announced that a list of written declarations submitted by Members was on display in the ante-room, on deposit in the public galleries and had been circulated to each Member's place in the Chamber.

Following an invitation to declare further individual interests, declarations in accordance with the Council's Member's Code of Conduct were made as follows:-

- a) Councillor Dawson declared a personal interest in minute 80(d) of this meeting as a member of Morley Town Council.
- b) Councillor Leadley declared a personal interest in minute 81 of this meeting as member of Morley Town Council:-
- c) Members declared personal interests in minute 86 of this meeting as follows:-

Cllr T Murray	Director of IGEN Chief Executive of Learning Partnerships
Cllr C Fox	Near relative in receipt of incapacity benefit.
Cllr P Harrand	Member, Leeds Learning Disabilities Partnership Board
Cllr A Lamb	Member, Scrutiny Board (Children's and Families) Member, 11-19 (25) Learning and Support Partnership Member, Children's Trust Board
Cllr G Latty	Member, Leeds Initiative – Health and Wellbeing Board
Cllr P Latty	Member, Scrutiny Board (Children's and Families) Member, Early Years Service Challenge and Advisory Partnership (formerly Early Years Development Partnership)
Cllr P Wadsworth	Board Member, West North West Homes Leeds

Cllr G Wilkinson	Member, Children's Advisory Panel Member, East North East Homes Leeds
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Cllr M Lobley	Member, Renewal
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d) Members declared personal interests in minute 85 of this meeting as follows:-

Cllr T Murray	Chief Executive of Learning Partnerships Director of IGEN
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Cllr K Wakefield	Member of Leeds City Region Employment and Skills Board Chair of Leeds Skills Board
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Cllr J Dowson	Chair of 11-19 Learning Support Partnership
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Cllr A Lowe	Member of Yorkshire and Humber Employers Committee
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Cllr C Macniven	Employed on a freelance basis by Learning Partnerships
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Cllr K Maqsood	Director of Leeds Education Achievement Project
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Cllr C Fox	Member, Bramhope Youth Development Trust
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Cllr B Hyde	Member, Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for Yorkshire and Humber
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Cllr A Lamb	Member, Scrutiny Board (Children's and Families) Member, 11-19 (25) Learning and Support Partnership Member, Children's Trust Board Member, Princes Trust WY Committee
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Cllr G Latty	Member, Leeds Initiative – Health and Wellbeing Board
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Cllr P Latty	Member, Scrutiny Board (Children's and Families) Member, Early Years Service Challenge and Advisory Partnership (formerly Early Years Development Partnership)
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Cllr J Marjoram	Member, Fostering Panel (Civic)
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Cllr J Procter	Member, Lady Elisabeth Hastings Educational Foundation
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Cllr M Robinson	Member, Leeds Schools Sports Association
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Cllr G Wilkinson	Member, Children's Advisory Panel
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Cllr B Cleasby	Governor, Horsforth School
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Cllr M Lobley	Member, Renewal
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e) Members declared personal interests in minute 84 of this meeting as follows:-

Cllr M Coulson	Member of West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority Chair of West Yorkshire Scrutiny Committee Integrated Transport
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Cllr J Dunn	Life Member of Transport and General Workers Union
Cllr P Gruen	Substitute Member Leeds City Region Transport Panel
Cllr J Harper	Member of West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority
Cllr A Khan	Member of West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority Passenger Transport Consultative Committee
Cllr J Lewis	Member of West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority Member of West Yorkshire integrated Transport Authority District Liaison Committee West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority Local Transport Plan Steering Group
Cllr A Lowe	Member of Transport and General Workers Union
Cllr M Lyons	Member of West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority
Cllr J McKenna	Member of West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority Passenger Consultative Committee Member of Transport and General Workers Union
Cllr V Morgan	Member of West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority
Cllr N Walshaw	Member of West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority Passenger Consultative Committee
Cllr A Carter	Member, West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority
Cllr D Collins	Member, Scrutiny Board (Regeneration)
Cllr C Fox	Member, WYITA District Liaison Committee Member, WYITA Passenger Transport Consultative Committee
Cllr B Hyde	Member, West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority
Cllr M Lobley	Member, Scrutiny Board (Sustainable Economy and Culture)
Cllr J Procter	Member, Aire Valley Regeneration Board Member, Leeds Initiative, Sustainable Economy and Culture Board
Cllr M Robinson	Member, Scrutiny Board (Sustainable Economy and Culture)

f) Members declared personal interests in minute 87 of this meeting as follows:-

Cllr T Murray	Chief Executive of Learning Partnerships Director of IGEN
Cllr B Anderson	Chair, Scrutiny Board (Safer and Stronger Communities) Member, Leeds Initiative – Stronger Communities Partnership

Cllr L Carter	Member, Leeds Initiative Safer and Stronger Communities Board
Cllr P Harrand	Member, Leeds Learning Disabilities Partnership Board
Cllr P Latty	Member, Scrutiny Board (Children's and Families)
Cllr J Procter	Chair, Scrutiny Board (Regeneration)

g) Members declared personal interests in minute 88 of this meeting as follows:-

Cllr B Anderson	Member, Leeds Initiative City Centre Partnership
Cllr A Carter	Member, West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority
Cllr D Collins	Member, Scrutiny Board (Regeneration)
Cllr C Fox	Member, WYITA District Liaison Committee Member, WYITA Passenger Transport Consultative Committee
Cllr B Hyde	Member, West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority
Cllr M Lobley	Member, Scrutiny Board (Sustainable Economy and Culture)
Cllr J Procter	Member, Aire Valley Regeneration Board Member, Leeds Initiative, Sustainable Economy and Culture Board
Cllr M Robinson	Member, Scrutiny Board (Sustainable Economy and Culture)

## 78 **Communications**

The Chief Executive reported that he had recently received the following responses in respect of White Paper resolutions agreed at the November 2011 Council meeting:-

White Paper on BBC Cuts – Responses received from:-

- Ed Vaizey, Minister for Culture, Communications and Creative Industries.
- Mark Thompson, Director General of the BBC.
- Judy Lustigman from the BBC Trust Unit on behalf of Lord Patten, Chairman of the BBC Trust.

White Paper on Feed In Tariff Scheme – Response received from:-

- Gregory Barker MP, Minister of State, Department of Energy and Climate Change.

White Paper on Health and Social Care Bill – Response received from:-

- Earl Howe the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Quality at the Department of Health.

## 79 Deputations

Two deputations were admitted to the meeting and addressed Council, as follows:-

- 1) Mayor for the Day regarding 'When It Comes To Keeping Kidz Active – Leeds Leads.
- 2) Leeds Climate Action Coalition regarding the impact of the Feed in Tariff review on jobs, fuel poverty and carbon reduction in Leeds.

**RESOLVED** – That the subject matter in respect of the deputations be referred to the Executive Board for consideration.

## 80 Reports

### a) Appointments

It was moved by Councillor J Lewis, seconded by Councillor Lobley and

**RESOLVED** – That the report of the City Solicitor on appointments be approved, namely:-

- That Councillor P Grahame replace Councillor Mitchell on Scrutiny Board (Regeneration).

### b) Attendance at Meetings

It was moved by Councillor J Lewis, seconded by Councillor Lobley and

**RESOLVED** – That the report of the City Solicitor on attendance at meetings be approved.

### c) Amendments to the Officer Delegation Scheme (Executive Functions)

It was moved by Councillor Wakefield, seconded by Councillor J Lewis and

**RESOLVED** – That the report of the Director of Resources on amendments to the Officer Delegation Scheme (Executive Functions) and the consequential amendments to the Constitution, in accordance with Executive Procedure Rule 1.4(b), be noted.

### d) Calculation of the Council Tax Base 2012/13

It was moved by Councillor Wakefield, seconded by Councillor J Lewis and

**RESOLVED** – That the report of the Director of Resources on the calculation of the Council tax base 2012/13 for the purpose of calculating the Council Tax be approved.

## 81 Questions

Q1 Councillor A Carter to the Executive Member (Neighbourhoods, Housing and Regeneration):-

Will the Executive Board Member for Neighbourhoods, Housing and Regeneration please confirm that he, and the Member of Parliament for East Leeds did in fact commission the withdrawn report on the East Leeds Regeneration Board, and that the report was drafted by Paul Forbes, as has

already been confirmed by representatives of the Leeds and North Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce?

The Executive Member (Neighbourhoods, Housing and Regeneration) replied.

Q2 Councillor Chastney to the Executive Member (Development and the Economy):-

Will the Executive Member for development please update Council on the outcome of the West Park Centre options appraisal?

The Executive Member (Development and the Economy) replied.

Q3 Councillor Maqsood's question to the Executive Member (Children's Services) was withdrawn.

Q4 Councillor Leadley to the Leader of Council:-

Will the Leader of Council be seeking advice from Councillor Neil Dawson during preparation of the Leeds City Council Budget for 2012-13?

The Leader of Council replied.

Q5 Councillor Renshaw to the Executive Member (Environmental Services):-

Would the Executive Member for Environmental Services update Members on the introduction of ambitious new targets for recycling in the city?

The Executive Member (Environmental Services) replied.

Q6 Councillor Anderson to the Executive Member (Environmental Services):-

Will the Executive Member for Environmental Services like to take this opportunity to apologise to the residents of Leeds who have suffered a poor and inconsistent refuse collection service recently and will he further take this opportunity to confirm that he will make every effort to ensure that these problems do not occur again?

The Executive Member (Environmental Services) replied.

Q7 Councillor Bentley to the Executive Member (Neighbourhoods, Housing and Regeneration):-

Does the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods and Housing agree that the Council should set an example to other employers on the issue of apprenticeships?

The Executive Member (Neighbourhoods, Housing and Regeneration) replied.

Q8 Councillor G Hyde to the Leader of Council:-

Would the Leader update Council as to the implications for Leeds of last month's Core Cities announcement by Nick Clegg?

The Leader of Council replied.



Q9 Councillor Gettings to the Executive Member (Children's Services):-

Could the Executive Member for Children's Services inform Council how many Primary and Secondary schools in Leeds have become Academies, Free Schools or Trust Schools and what implication this has for the city?

The Executive Member (Children's Services) replied.

Q10 Councillor G Harper to the Executive Member (Neighbourhoods, Housing and Regeneration):-

Is the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Housing & Regeneration as relieved as I am that the Government has finally enabled us to move forward with the Little London, Beeston Hill & Holbeck PFI Regeneration scheme?

The Executive Member (Neighbourhoods, Housing and Regeneration) replied.

Q11 Councillor Lamb to the Executive Member (Children's Services):-

Will the Executive Member for Children's Services provide an update on the project to replace the ESCR computer system, is it on time and on budget?

The Executive Member (Children's Services) replied.

At the conclusion of question time, the following questions remained unanswered and it was noted that, under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 11.6, written answers would be sent to each Member of Council:-

Q12 Councillor Pryke to the Executive Member (Environmental Services).

Q13 Councillor Lowe to the Executive Member (Neighbourhoods, Housing and Regeneration).

Q14 Councillor Leadley to the Executive Member (Development and the Economy).

Q15 Councillor A Khan to the Executive Member (Adult Health & Social Care).

Q16 Councillor Lamb to the Executive Member (Leisure).

Q17 Councillor Matthews to the Executive Member (Development and the Economy).

Q18 Councillor Jarosz to the Executive Member (Development and the Economy).

Q19 Councillor Finnigan to the Leader of Council.

Q20 Councillor A McKenna to the Leader of Council.

Q21 Councillor Wilkinson to the Executive Member (Environmental Services).

Q22 Councillor Townsley to the Leader of Council.

Q23 Councillor E Taylor to the Executive Member (Children's Services).

- Q24 Councillor Anderson to the Executive Member (Development and the Economy).
- Q25 Councillor Pryke to the Executive Member (Environmental Services)
- Q26 Councillor Anderson to the Executive Member (Environmental Services).).
- Q27 Councillor Townsley to the Executive Member (Leisure).
- Q28 Councillor Marjoram to the Executive Member (Development and the Economy).
- Q29 Councillor Campbell to the Executive Member (Development and the Economy).
- Q30 Councillor Robinson to the Executive Member (Development and the Economy).
- Q31 Councillor Pryke to the Executive Member (Neighbourhoods, Housing and Regeneration).
- Q32 Councillor Marjoram to the Leader of Council.

## **82 Recommendations of the Executive Board**

It was moved by Councillor Wakefield, seconded by Councillor J Lewis, and

**RESOLVED** – That the recommendations of the Executive Board, as presented by the report of the Director of Resources, with regard to the Large Casino – Approval of the Revised Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy 2010-12 to come into effect on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2012 and the consultation report as the Council's response to the public consultation be approved.

## **83 Minutes**

It was moved by Councillor Wakefield, seconded by Councillor J Lewis that the minutes be received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2(i).

Council Procedure Rule 4, providing for the winding up of business, was applied prior to all notified comments on the minutes having been debated.

The meeting was suspended at 4.55pm and resumed at 5.20pm.

## **84 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Golton) - Transport Infrastructure**

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 14.10, leave of Council was given to alter the amendment in the name of Councillor R Lewis by the insertion of the following at the end of the amendment:-

'This Council requests a report to Executive Board outlining options for Park and Ride.'

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rules 13.2(d) and 14.11 and with the consent of the seconder, leave of Council was given to Councillor Anderson to withdraw the amendment in his name and to second the amendment in the name of Councillor R Lewis.

It was moved by Councillor Golton, seconded by Councillor Downes, that this Council welcomes the commitment made by the Deputy Prime Minister here in Leeds supporting cities to lead our national economic recovery.

Council recognises the role of infrastructure investment in creating jobs, apprenticeships and supporting local businesses and welcomes the recent call from Leeds City Region Leaders for greater certainty from the Government around long term transport funding.

Council believes that there are actions the Council can take now to get the city on the move again, and calls on the Executive to bring forward proposals to progress with park and ride schemes at Stourton and Bodington Hall irrespective of the Government's decision on the NGT scheme and to investigate the viability of additional park and ride sites in other parts of the city.

An amendment was moved by Councillor R Lewis, seconded by Councillor Anderson to delete all after 'This Council' and replace with:-

'urge the Government to follow through on the commitment made by the Deputy Prime Minister here in Leeds to devolve new powers to cities.

Council recognises the role of infrastructure investment in creating jobs, apprenticeships and supporting local businesses and welcomes the recent call from Leeds City Region Leaders for greater certainty from the Government around long term transport funding.

Council believes all avenues for improving public transport provision in the city should be explored including investigating the viability of park and ride sites and calls on the Government to make a swift decision on NGT so that an integrated approach to public transport can be developed.

This Council requests a report to Executive Board outlining options for Park and Ride.'

The amendment in the name of Councillor R Lewis was carried and, upon being put as the substantive motion, it was

**RESOLVED** – That this Council urge the Government to follow through on the commitment made by the Deputy Prime Minister here in Leeds to devolve new powers to cities.

Council recognises the role of infrastructure investment in creating jobs, apprenticeships and supporting local businesses and welcomes the recent call from Leeds City Region Leaders for greater certainty from the Government around long term transport funding.

Council believes all avenues for improving public transport provision in the city should be explored including investigating the viability of park and ride sites and calls on the Government to make a swift decision on NGT so that an integrated approach to public transport can be developed.

This Council requests a report to Executive Board outlining options for Park and Ride.

**85 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Blake) - Children and Young People**

It was moved by Councillor Blake, seconded by Councillor Hanley, that this Council believes that young people are being hit harder by the Government's response to the economic downturn than any other age group, as evidenced by recent reports by the Institute for Fiscal Studies.

Council notes with grave concern that the level of young people not in education, employment or training is at a record high, while predictions for economic growth have been significantly downgraded. This comes at a time when Government policies are reducing opportunities in education and destroying the careers service, policies which have resulted in a significant drop in the number of university applications.

Council commits to working together with partner organisations to achieve the best possible outcomes for children and young people in Leeds. This includes fully engaging with the business community to increase the numbers of apprenticeships offered to Leeds young people.

Council therefore:-

- a) calls on our partner organisations to fully support and commit to achieving our ambition to become the UK's first Child Friendly City;
- b) asks Government to rethink its response to the economic downturn in order to mitigate the damaging effects that policies including the removal of the Education Maintenance Allowance and the raising of tuition fees are having on the life chances of children and young people.

Council requests that the Chief Executive write to the Minister for Children and Families to highlight the concerns of this Council.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Downes, seconded by Councillor Campbell  
Delete first two paragraphs and replace with:-

'Council welcomes the creation by the Government of the £1 billion Youth Contract to help young people not in education, employment or training find work.

Council welcomes the £18 million pupil premium funding that Leeds schools will receive in 2012-13 and notes the assessment from the IFS that the policy is a simple, transparent and effective way of targeting education spending to deprived communities.

Council notes recent comments from Ed Miliband that the Labour party needs to wake up to the reality of the budget deficit.

Council further notes with regret that the gap between rich and poor widened during the course of 13 years of the last Labour Government.

Council also notes that careers guidance for young people in years 9, 10 and 11 only is far too late to start. Council believes that life skills, which identify with employability skills, should form part of the teaching and learning which young people receive throughout their education.'

Delete all from 'Council therefore' to 'life chances of children and young people'  
[bullet points]

Delete all from 'the Minister' to end of motion and replace with [final paragraph]:-

'our partner organisations seeking their full support and commitment to achieving our ambition to become the UK's first Child Friendly City.'

Amended motion would then read:-

'Council welcomes the creation by the Government of the £1 billion Youth Contract to help young people not in education, employment or training find work.

Council welcomes the £18 million pupil premium funding that Leeds schools will receive in 2012-13 and notes the assessment from the IFS that the policy is a simple, transparent and effective way of targeting education spending to deprived communities.

Council notes recent comments from Ed Miliband that the Labour party needs to wake up to the reality of the budget deficit.

Council further notes with regret that the gap between rich and poor widened during the course of 13 years of the last Labour Government.

Council also notes that careers guidance for young people in years 9, 10 and 11 only is far too late to start. Council believes that life skills, which identify with employability skills, should form part of the teaching and learning which young people receive throughout their education.

Council commits to working together with partner organisations to achieve the best possible outcomes for children and young people in Leeds. This includes fully engaging with the business community to increase the numbers of apprenticeships offered to Leeds young people.

Council therefore requests that the chief executive writes to our partner organisations seeking their full support and commitment to achieving our ambition to become the UK's first Child Friendly City.'

A second amendment was moved by Councillor Lamb, seconded by Councillor W Hyde to:-

Delete between 'This Council believes' and 'Council Commits to.' and replace with:-

'that young people have been hit particularly badly by the economic downturn and notes with concern the number of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) at a time when predictions for economic growth in the short term remain gloomy.'

Delete all after 'Leeds young people' and replace with:-

'This Council believes that delivering a better future for our children and young people is of the highest importance and as such should be a key focus for all political parties on Leeds City Council.

Council commits to work together on an all party basis to deliver improved outcomes for children and young people in Leeds, with a particular emphasis on spend to save initiatives that will deliver increasing resources to enable the introduction of comprehensive early intervention programmes that will begin to tackle the problem of NEETs both now and in the future.'

Amended motion would read:-

'This Council believes that young people have been hit particularly badly by the economic downturn and notes with concern the number of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) at a time when predictions for economic growth in the short term remain gloomy.

Council commits to working together with partner organisations to achieve the best possible outcomes for children and young people in Leeds. This includes fully engaging with the business community to increase the numbers of apprenticeships offered to Leeds young people.

This Council believes that delivering a better future for our children and young people is of the highest importance and as such should be a key focus for all political parties on Leeds City Council.

Therefore Council resolves to work together on an all party basis to deliver improved outcomes for children and young people in Leeds, with a particular emphasis on spend to save initiatives that will deliver increasing resources to enable the introduction of comprehensive early intervention programmes that will begin to tackle the problem of NEETs both now and in the future.'

The amendments were declared lost and, upon the motion being put to the vote, it was

**RESOLVED** – That this Council believes that young people are being hit harder by the Government's response to the economic downturn than any other age group, as evidenced by recent reports by the Institute for Fiscal Studies.

Council notes with grave concern that the level of young people not in education, employment or training is at a record high, while predictions for economic growth have been significantly downgraded. This comes at a time when Government policies are reducing opportunities in education and destroying the careers service, policies which have resulted in a significant drop in the number of university applications.

Council commits to working together with partner organisations to achieve the best possible outcomes for children and young people in Leeds. This includes fully engaging with the business community to increase the numbers of apprenticeships offered to Leeds young people.

Council therefore:-

- a) calls on our partner organisations to fully support and commit to achieving our ambition to become the UK's first Child Friendly City;
- b) asks Government to rethink its response to the economic downturn in order to mitigate the damaging effects that policies including the removal of the Education Maintenance Allowance and the raising of tuition fees are having on the life chances of children and young people.

Council requests that the Chief Executive write to the Minister for Children and Families to highlight the concerns of this Council.

(The provision of Council Procedure Rule 4.1(b) was applied during the debate on this motion and 3.1(d) was applied following the debate on this motion.)

**86 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Finnigan) - Welfare Reforms**

It was moved by Councillor Finnigan, seconded by Councillor Varley, and

**RESOLVED** – That this Council supports welfare reform. This Council recognises that any new welfare provision must be affordable, effectively targeted, support people into employment and promote active citizenry.

This Council agrees to set up a cross party working group to analyse in depth present proposals to see if they comply with these conditions and advise the Council accordingly on any amendments that need to be lobbied for and any new Council processes that should be introduced to accommodate the new welfare system.

**87 White Paper Motion(in the name of Councillor Lobley) - Mandatory Work Activity Pilot**

It was moved by Councillor Lobley, seconded by Councillor Wadsworth, that this Council welcomes the planned expansion of the Government's mandatory work activity pilot, which asks benefit claimants to undertake community work for four weeks in return for their benefits. Council notes that the scheme is part of the Government's drive to reduce people's dependency on benefits and provide positive work experience to aid their search for employment.

Council believes that, if the scheme were extended nationally, it could both help to reduce the country's huge benefits bill and provide many families in Leeds who want to work with the chance to gain valuable experience. Council requests the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods to liaise with the Department of Work and Pensions in order to establish how such a scheme would work in Leeds.

Upon being put to the vote, the motion was declared lost.

**88 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Downes) - Council Procedure Rule 3.1(d) - NGT Decision**

It was moved by Councillor Downes, seconded by Councillor J Lewis, that this Council notes with regret that the recent delay to the Government's decision on the NGT scheme is costing Leeds taxpayers £1 million per month.

Whilst respecting the Government's request for further information about the bid, Council believes that whatever the Government decides on the scheme, it should be made swiftly.

Council calls on the Chief Executive to draft a letter, signed by all party leaders, to the Secretary of State for Transport requesting that once the bid is resubmitted, she and her department treat it as a high priority so that a decision is made as soon as possible.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Lobley, seconded by Councillor Anderson to Delete all after 'Council notes' and replace with:-

'the recent Government decision to allow further time for Leeds to provide evidence to support the improvement to the NGT cost to benefit ratio which is now £5.90 in benefits for every £1 spent.

This Council fully supports the delivery of the NGT scheme in Leeds and believes that the scheme along with other recent Government investment in the city's transport infrastructure will bring significant benefits to the economy in Leeds.

Council regrets the delay in approving the scheme but looks forward to the DfT Minister, Norman Baker, making a final decision on NGT in May 2012.

Amended motion would read:-

Council notes the recent Government decision to allow further time for Leeds to provide evidence to support the improvement to the NGT cost to benefit ratio which is now £5.90 in benefits for every £1 spent.

This Council fully supports the delivery of the NGT scheme in Leeds and believes that the scheme along with other recent Government investment in the city's transport infrastructure will bring significant benefits to the economy in Leeds.

Council looks forward to the DfT Minister, Norman Baker, making a final decision on NGT in May 2012.

The amendment was declared lost and, upon the motion being put to the vote, it was

**RESOLVED** – That this Council notes with regret that the recent delay to the Government's decision on the NGT scheme is costing Leeds taxpayers £1 million per month.

Whilst respecting the Government's request for further information about the bid, Council believes that whatever the Government decides on the scheme, it should be made swiftly.

Council calls on the Chief Executive to draft a letter, signed by all party leaders, to the Secretary of State for Transport requesting that once the bid is resubmitted, she and her department treat it as a high priority so that a decision is made as soon as possible.

Council rose at 7.20 pm.