

Public Document Pack

Amendment to the White Paper on the Trade Union Bill

This page is intentionally left blank



COUNCIL MEETING – 23 March 2016

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper	WP3	11/3/16	15/3/16

Submitted by:	Councillor James Lewis
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Executive Member (Resources and Strategy)
Relevant Director	Deputy Chief Executive

As a major employer in the local area, this Council welcomes the positive benefits that arise from the relationship that we have with recognised Trade Unions. This Council believes that the relationship between employers and their employees through their collective representatives would be damaged by reducing facility time for elected representatives and by removing the ability of union members to pay union dues direct from their wages.

This Council believes that the Trade Union bill, far from assisting employer-employee relations or improving workplace democracy, is an ideologically driven attack on the fundamental rights and freedoms of workers to organise or take strike action. It is also deliberately designed to dramatically reduce funding to the main Party in opposition to the Government, and as such is a threat to our democracy.

The Council notes that the Bill and secondary legislation will:

- Allow agency labour to be used to substitute for striking workers, currently outlawed, which would be deeply divisive and with agency workers often doing unfamiliar jobs, could pose a serious health and safety risk to themselves and others
- Introduce very high thresholds for industrial ballots, with an extra threshold in certain public services, without doing anything to improve the ability of workers to participate in ballots
- Severely restrict the right to picket and peacefully protest including organising campaigns through social media
- Significantly reduce Trade Union facility time and withdraw check-off union contributions in the public sector, irrespective of the wishes of the employer
- Require union members to 'contract in' to their union's Political Fund every 5 years, thereby significantly reducing the ability of Trade Unions either to campaign on political issues or to support political parties.

This Council commits to promote the positive role that Trade Unions bring to society and therefore calls on the Government to scrap the Trade Union Bill and all associated regulation/secondary legislation.

Should the Trade Union Bill receive Royal Assent enabling the legislation to come into effect, Council requests that Executive Board receive a report on the implications of the Bill for Leeds City Council, its employees, Trade Unions and the effect on maintaining positive industrial relations.

Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting
(including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

COUNCIL MEETING – 23rd MARCH 2016

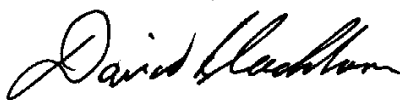
NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper Amendment	A1 to WP3	17/3/16	22/3/16

Submitted by:	Councillor David Blackburn
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Executive Member (Resources and Strategy)
Relevant Director	Deputy Chief Executive

To delete the last sentence of the second paragraph.

i.e. delete: "It is also deliberately designed to dramatically reduce funding to the main Party in opposition to the Government, and as such is a threat to our democracy.."

The rest of the text remains unchanged.



Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
 - Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
 - Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting
- (including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

This page is intentionally left blank

COUNCIL MEETING – 23rd MARCH 2016

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper Amendment	A2 to WP3	22/3/16	22/3/16

Submitted by:	Councillor J Bentley
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Executive Member (Resources and Strategy)
Relevant Director	Deputy Chief Executive

Remove all except paragraph 4.

Replace “*commits to promote*” in paragraph 4 with “*acknowledges*”.

Add the following to the end of the motion:

“This council believes that our democracy is distorted by the large sums of money donated to political parties by a very small number of individuals, businesses and trade unions and that the entire system of party funding is in urgent need of fundamental reform.”



Deadlines for submission

White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
 Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
 Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting
 (including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

This page is intentionally left blank

COUNCIL MEETING – 23 March 2016

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment	A3 to WP3	22/3/16	22/3/16

Submitted by:	Councillor Alan Lamb
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Executive Member (Resources and Strategy)
Relevant Director	Deputy Chief Executive

Delete Paragraph 1. In Paragraph 2 delete all after ‘This Council’ and replace with:

‘believes that the Trade Union Bill delivers overdue reform of Trade Unions and the relationship between them and public sector organisations. The positive impacts of the bill are clear:

- Giving trade union members the right to opt in to pay political contributions
- Reduced intimidation of non-striking workers
- Deliver savings to the public purse
- A reduction in disruption to hard working families caused by strikes based on out dated ballots with less than 30% of Trade Union Membership support
- Increase the notice period for strike action, giving employers more time to prepare contingency plans and reduce disruption for the public

Council recognises the valuable role that TUs play in a variety of organisations and the role they play in Leeds, but notes TUs involvement in political campaigning, largely for one party, and that TUs should therefore be funded entirely by subscriptions from their members.

Council calls on the Chief Executive to write to the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills setting out the Council’s support for the reforms in the Bill.

Council further calls for an end to Leeds City Council subsidy of Trade Unions.’

Motion will read:

‘This Council believes that the Trade Union Bill delivers overdue reform of Trade Unions and the relationship between them and public sector organisations. The positive impacts of the bill are clear:

- Giving trade union members the right to opt in to pay political contributions
- Reduced intimidation of non-striking workers
- Deliver savings to the public purse
- A reduction in disruption to hard working families caused by strikes based on out dated ballots with less than 30% of Trade Union Membership support
- Increase the notice period for strike action, giving employers more time to prepare contingency plans and reduce disruption for the public

Council recognises the valuable role that TUs play in a variety of organisations and the role they

play in Leeds, but notes TUs involvement in political campaigning, largely for one party, and that TUs should therefore be funded entirely by subscriptions from their members.

Council calls on the Chief Executive to write to the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills setting out the Council's support for the reforms in the Bill.

Council further calls for an end to Leeds City Council subsidy of Trade Unions.'



Councillor Alan Lamb

Deadlines for submission

White Papers	- 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
Questions	- 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
Amendments (including references back)	- 10.00 am on the day before the meeting

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)
