

A meeting of the Council will be held in the Civic Hall, Leeds on Wednesday, 20th July, 2022 at 1.00 pm

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

- 1 Minutes of the last Meeting** 7 - 12

To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26th May 2022.
- 2 Declaration of Interest**

To disclose or draw attention to any interests in accordance with Leeds City Council's 'Councillor Code of Conduct'.
- 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 Recommendations of the General Purposes Committee - Amendments to Article 17 of the Constitution, Health and Wellbeing Board Terms of Reference and Council Procedure Rules** 13 - 22

To consider the report of the Director of Adults and Health setting out recommendations from the General Purposes Committee on 11 July 2022 to Full Council recommending amendments to Article 17 of the Constitution, The Health and Wellbeing Board Terms of Reference and Council Procedure Rules to reflect the changes in the health and care system of England as set out in The Health and Care Act 2022 legislation (which came in to effect from the 1 July 2022).
- 6 Report on Appointments** 23 - 26

To consider the report of the City Solicitor on appointments.

7 **Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel** 27 - 36

To consider the report of the Head of Democratic Services presenting to Council the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) following a meeting on 23 May 2022 setting out their conclusions and recommendations.

8 **Report on Scrutiny Annual Report** 37 - 52

To consider the report of the Head of Democratic Services presenting to Council the Scrutiny Annual Report for 2021/22 providing an overview of the work and activities undertaken by the Council's Scrutiny Boards in discharging the scrutiny function during the previous municipal year, 2021/2022.

9 **Report on the Annual Report of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee** 53 - 68

To consider the report of the Chief Officer Financial Services presenting to Council the Annual Report of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee, Council are requested to receive and consider the annual report reflecting the work of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee in the 2021-22 municipal year.

10 **Executive Questions**

To deal with executive questions in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.

11 **Minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Executive Board** 69 - 94

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

12 **White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Andrew Carter) - Highways** 95 - 96

This Council is concerned that the mean average highways maintenance backlog in the city is 19.8 years, pointing to significant under investment in the city's roads by the current administration.

Council is further concerned that budget amendments to increase highways capital investment have been repeatedly ignored suggesting that the administration do not see highways investment as a priority. This is particularly the case when set against a backdrop of massive borrowing and debt incurred by the authority since 2010, meaning that in 2022/23 up to £63.5m will be spent on MRP debt and interest, money that could have been spent on frontline services or prioritised towards highways investment.

Council further notes significant Government investment in highways and transport in recent years both in Leeds and nationally:

- £173.5m or the Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme
- £200m for development and delivery of a mass transit scheme in Leeds
- £4.8m in pothole grant funding allocated in 2021/22
- £2.7 billion in local highways maintenance funding between 2022/23 and 2024/25 to local authorities outside of London and the 8 largest city regions
- £20m Levelling Up funding for West Leeds transport improvements
- CRSTS funding of £830m announced in April 2022

This Council believes that Leeds residents see highways maintenance as a major priority both in terms of road safety, amenity and to prevent damage to vehicles. Council therefore calls for a report to be brought to Executive Board setting out how highways maintenance will be prioritised and how much additional investment the Council will make in the city's roads in the coming years.

13

**White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Forsaith) -
Fair Votes**

97 - 98

This Council notes that the First Past the Post (FPTP) voting system originated when land-owning aristocrats dominated parliament and voting was restricted to property-owning men. In Europe, only the UK and authoritarian Belarus still use archaic single-round FPTP for general elections.

Council supports fair votes for all and further notes that:

- the UK's First Past the Post voting system curtails voter choice and leaves millions feeling unrepresented by their elected representatives. This growing disillusionment amongst voters is evidenced by low turn outs, particularly in local elections. These factors have contributed to dangerous levels of distrust and disillusionment with our democratic process.
- Proportional Representation (PR) is used to elect parliaments in more than 80 countries. Those countries tend to be more equal, freer and greener. PR ensures all votes count, have equal value, and that seats won match votes cast. Under PR, MPs and Parliaments better reflect the age, gender and protected characteristics of local communities and the nation. MPs better reflecting their communities leads to improved decision-making, wider participation and increased levels of ownership of decisions taken.
- PR would also end minority rule. In 2019, 43.6% of the vote produced a government with 56.2% of the seats and 100% of the power. PR also prevents 'wrong winner' elections such as occurred in 1951 when more people voted Labour than Conservative, yet the Conservatives formed the government.
- PR is already used to elect the Parliaments and Assemblies of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland as well as London and the Welsh Senedd is reviewing legislation on Single Transferable Vote for local councils.
- There is a growing movement of supporters for Proportional Representation, with the Unite and Unison unions now backing PR.

- There is a range of options for implementing Proportional Representation systems, any of which would deliver a fairer and more representative democracy for electors.

Council believes

- that it is essential that faith is restored in our democratic system and that the public see both Parliament and Councils as fairly reflecting their views
- that our First Past the Post voting system is a significant barrier to restoring this faith which prevents the balance of opinion among the electorate being reflected in Parliament and local councils
- that a system of Proportional Representation in which seats match votes and all votes count equally would help to rebuild public trust by ensuring that all political views are represented in Parliament and local councils in proportion to their level of public support

Council therefore resolves to write to HM Government calling for a change in our outdated electoral laws to enable Proportional Representation to be used for general and local elections.

Council further resolves to ask all the MPs who represent Leeds residents to support changing our electoral system to a fairer Proportional Representation system.

14 **White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Harland) - Household Support Fund** 99 - 100

This Council believes funding allocated by the Government to Leeds City Council for the Household Support Fund to help residents in financial difficulties is not enough given the current Cost of Living crisis which has followed 12 years of austerity.

Council is very concerned that the amount allocated to support residents in Leeds works out at no more than £9 per person meaning many families will not receive the support that they need at an increasingly difficult time financially for many people.

Council calls on Government to urgently increase funding allocated via the Household Support Fund to ensure residents in Leeds who need support both now and through the winter can afford to meet the price of food, heating and essential living costs.



Tom Riordan CBE
Chief Executive

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[Council and democracy \(leeds.gov.uk\)](https://leeds.gov.uk/council-and-democracy)

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Recording of this meeting is allowed to enable those not present to see or hear the proceedings either as they take place (or later) and to enable the reporting of those proceedings. A copy of the recording protocol is available from the clerk.

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- a) Any published recording should be accompanied by a statement of when and where the recording was made, the context of the discussion that took place, and a clear identification of the main speakers and their role or title.
- b) Those making recordings must not edit the recording in a way that could lead to misinterpretation or misrepresentation of the proceedings or comments made by attendees. In particular there should be no internal editing of published extracts; recordings may start at any point and end at any point but the material between those points must be complete.