

A meeting of the Council will be held in the Civic Hall, Leeds on Wednesday, 18th January, 2012 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 2 Council Meetings held on 16th November 2011 and Council Meeting held on 7th December 2011.

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 City Solicitor on appointments be approved.

J LEWIS

- b) That the report of the City Solicitor on attendance at meetings be approved.

J LEWIS

- c) 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.

K WAKEFIELD

- d) That the report of the Director of Resources on the calculation of the Council Tax Base for 2012/2013, for the purpose of calculating the Council Tax, be approved.

K WAKEFIELD

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 Director of Resources on recommendations of the Executive Board in respect of the Large Casino - approval of the revised Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy 2010-2012 .

8. Minutes

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

9. White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Finnigan) - Welfare Reforms

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.

R FINNIGAN

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

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 writes to the Minister for Children and Families to highlight the concerns of this council.

J BLAKE

11. White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Golton) - Transport Infrastructure

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.

S GOLTON

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

"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."

M LOBLEY

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

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.

R DOWNES

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