

**A meeting of the Council will be held in the Civic Hall, Leeds on Wednesday, 12th September, 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 Council Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

**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. Recommendations of General Purposes Committee**

a) To consider the report of the Chief Officer, Democratic and Central Services on recommendations of the General Purposes Committee in respect of proposed amendments to the Members' Code of Conduct arising from DCLG guidance; new regulations regarding meetings of the Executive and Access to Information; and a review of Council meetings.

**K WAKEFIELD**

b) To consider the report of the Chief Officer, Democratic and Central Services on recommendations of the General Purposes Committee in respect of proposals to establish new arrangements in respect of Plans Panels from a date to be determined:

**K WAKEFIELD**

c) To consider the report of the Head of Licensing and Registration on recommendations of the General Purposes Committee in respect of proposals to establish new arrangements in respect of the Community Governance Reviews of Scarcroft and Rawdon.

## **K WAKEFIELD**

### **6. 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))

That the report of the Chief Officer, Democratic and Central Services on appointments be approved.

## **J LEWIS**

### **7. Questions**

To deal with questions in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11

### **8. Minutes**

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

### **9. Back Bench Community Concerns**

To receive Back Bench Community Concerns in respect of;

- a) Councillor J Bentley – The quality of the household refuse collection service in the Weetwood ward.

#### **J BENTLEY**

- b) Councillor J McKenna - Health, poverty and worklessness in New Wortley.

#### **J McKENNA**

- c) Councillor N Dawson - We wish to call for the reduction of the maximum speed of vehicles from 30mph to 20 mph on roads near to schools, and on estates in heavily built up areas.

We would like the council to have a comprehensive plan to roll out a 20 mph maximum speed limit to all roads near to schools and estates where residents request lower speed limits, and to then have measures to ensure the limits are enforced.

We would like to see more highways resources used to create 20 Mph zones and also agreement with the police and other agencies to ensure these reduced traffic speeds are enforced in these zones.

Speeding is the major cause of most vehicle accidents. In Leeds in 2011 26 people were killed, 271 were seriously injured and 2389 were slightly injured in road traffic accidents.

**N DAWSON**

- d) Councillor J Elliott - To discuss the proposal for the closure of Morley Fire Station and the impact this will have on the local community.

**J ELLIOTT**

- e) Councillor A Blackburn - Lack of play area on the Tong Estate, Farnley.

**A BLACKBURN**

- f) Councillor P Wadsworth - Traffic management on the A65.

**P WADSWORTH**

**10. White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Downes) - Local Business Rates**

This council agrees with the DCLG's recent 'Parades to be Proud of' report that local parades shops are crucial to the economy of Leeds and play a vital role in the character and identity of our local communities.

Council notes with concern the very real hardships that many of our local shops are experiencing in the current economic climate, especially new independent shops trying to establish themselves.

Council welcomes recent moves by the government to allow local authorities to keep hold of the business rates they collect and to introduce discretionary rate relief schemes based on criteria of their choosing.

Council calls on officers to investigate and report back to Executive Board within six months on how these powers could be most effectively used to support local Leeds shops, including but not limited to:

- Discretionary rate relief schemes that incentivise bringing empty units back into use, particularly by new businesses .
- Ring-fencing of business rates income in some areas to help regenerate the communities in which it is collected.

**R DOWNES**

## **11. White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Blake) - School Sports and Olympic Legacy**

Council celebrates the spectacular success of Team GB and Paralympics GB at the London 2012 games, and in particular the outstanding achievements of the Leeds athletes.

Council applauds schools across Leeds who have taken inspiration from the Olympics and Paralympics, and who have organised many sporting events.

Council reaffirms its commitment to becoming a Child Friendly City including the outcome of encouraging children and young people to chose healthy lifestyles. Council further recognises that a key part of this is school sports.

Council notes with deep concern the actions of Education Secretary Michael Gove in authorising the selling-off of school playing pitches, in some cases against the advice of the independent school playing fields advisory panel, and removing the minimum outdoor space guidelines for schools.

Council believes this latest policy change, following on from the removal of the School Sports Partnership Funding, undermines school sports and is at odds with the aim of an Olympic legacy.

Council resolves to instruct the Chief Executive to write to ministers to lobby for a true Olympic legacy including protecting school playing pitches and reinstating Schools Sports Partnership funding to its pre-cut level.

Council believes this will enable school children to develop a love of sporting activity that will help them choose healthy lifestyles and improve health outcomes.

**J BLAKE**

## **12. White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Lamb) - Education**

This Council congratulates pupils, teachers and all those involved in delivering education in Leeds for this year's exam results and overall education performance. However, despite these best efforts, this Council notes that education attainment continues to be below the national average and that too many children are still being let down by the education system and are not getting the skills that they need to prosper in the world of work.

This Council therefore commits to delivering rapid improvement in school performance in both the primary and secondary sectors and in particular this Council will:

- Move urgently to appoint a permanent Deputy Director for Learning, Skills and Universal Services;
- Commit to the Government's education reform agenda by supporting more independence for the city's schools to drive up attainment, in line with initiatives started by the last Government;
- Introduce measures that will deal with unacceptable teaching standards much more urgently;
- Ensure that no school in Leeds will remain below national floor targets for more than 12 months and commit to use its powers to replace school leadership where performance is unacceptable;

- Actively engage small and medium sized businesses to encourage stronger links between the private sector and Leeds schools to ensure that children and young people are given the skills needed to secure employment and further training and learning opportunities.

This Council is committed to ensuring that all children and young people in Leeds have the relevant skills and qualifications to enable them to gain meaningful employment and that they are able to thrive and prosper and fully contribute to the aim of transforming Leeds into the best city in the UK.

## **A LAMB**

3 White Papers are submitted subject to the approval of Council at item 5 to the introduction of a third White Paper.

Chief Executive

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