



Proceedings of the Meeting of the Leeds City Council held
Civic Hall, Leeds on Wednesday, 13th September, 2017

PRESENT: The Lord Mayor Councillor Jane Dowson in the Chair.

WARD

ADEL & WHARFEDALE

Barry John Anderson
Caroline Anderson
Billy Flynn

ALWOODLEY

Neil Alan Buckley
Dan Cohen
Peter Mervyn Harrand

ARDSLEY & ROBIN HOOD

Karen Renshaw
Jack Dunn
Lisa Mulherin

ARMLEY

Alison Natalie Kay Lowe
James McKenna
Alice Smart

BEESTON & HOLBECK

Angela Gabriel
Adam Ogilvie
David Congreve

BRAMLEY & STANNINGLEY

Caroline Gruen
Julie Heselwood
Kevin Ritchie

BURMANTOFTS & RICHMOND HILL

Denise Ragan
Asghar Khan
Ron Grahame

WARD

CALVERLEY & FARSLEY

Amanda Carter
Rod Wood

CHAPEL ALLERTON

Eileen Taylor
Mohammed Rafique
Jane Dowson

CITY & HUNSLET

Elizabeth Nash
Patrick Davey

CROSS GATES & WHINMOOR

Pauleen Grahame
Peter John Gruen

FARNLEY & WORTLEY

David Blackburn
Ann Blackburn

GARFORTH & SWILLINGTON

Sarah Field
Mark Dobson
Stuart McKenna

GIPTON & HAREHILLS

Salma Arif
Arif Hussain
Kamila Maqsood

GUISELEY & RAWDON

Graham Latty
Paul John Spencer Wadsworth
Pat Latty

HAREWOOD

Ryan Stephenson

Matthew James Robinson

HEADINGLEY

Alison Garthwaite
Neil Walshaw
Jonathon Pryor

HORSFORTH

Dawn Collins

Brian Cleasby

HYDE PARK & WOODHOUSE

Christine Denise Towler

Gerry Harper

Javaid Akhtar

KILLINGBECK & SEACROFT

Graham Hyde

Catherine Dobson

Brian Michael Selby

KIPPAX & METHLEY

Mary Elizabeth Harland

James Lewis

Keith Ivor Wakefield

KIRKSTALL

Lucinda Joy Yeadon

John Anthony Illingworth

Fiona Elizabeth Venner

MIDDLETON PARK

Paul Anthony Truswell

Judith Blake

Kim Groves

MOORTOWN

Rebecca Charlwood

Sharon Hamilton

MORLEY NORTH

Robert Gettings

Thomas Leadley

MORLEY SOUTH

Judith Elliott

Neil Dawson

Shirley Varley

OTLEY & YEADON

Sandy Edward Charles Lay

Colin Campbell

Ryk Downes

PUDSEY

Josephine Patricia Jarosz

Richard Alwyn Lewis

Mick Coulson

ROTHWELL

David Nagle

Karen Bruce

Barry Stewart Golton

ROUNDHAY

Eleanor Tunnicliffe

Christine Macniven

Ghulam Hussain

TEMPLE NEWSAM

Debra Coupar

Helen Hayden

Michael Lyons

WEETWOOD

Jonathan Bentley

Susan Bentley

Judith Mara Chapman

WETHERBY

Gerald Wilkinson

Alan James Lamb

John Michael Procter

30 Announcements

- a) The Lord Mayor reminded those present that the meeting was to be webcast.
- b) The Lord Mayor informed Council of the recent success of the City in the Yorkshire in Bloom Awards which included a Gold for Leeds in the Large City Award category.
- c) The Lord Mayor informed Council that Whips had again considered the method by which members who had previously reserved their right to speak in a debate then subsequently exercise that right, whips had agreed that it should continue to be the responsibility of the Member concerned to indicate to the Lord Mayor that they wished to exercise their right to speak and once the Lord Mayor had recognised that a member wishes to exercise their right to speak, the member will be invited by the Lord Mayor to speak next in the debate.

31 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interests.

32 Minutes of the last Meeting

It was moved by Councillor Ogilvie, seconded by Councillor G Latty and

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meetings held on 12th July 2017 be approved.

33 Communications

The Chief Executive informed Council that 2 responses to Council resolutions had been received from Robert Goodwill MP, Minister of State for Children and Families in respect of the White Paper on the Children and Families Budget considered by Council in July and the Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in respect of the White Paper on Housing also considered by Council in July.

The responses had previously been circulated to all Members of Council.

34 Deputations

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

- 1) Kirkstall Valley Development Trust
- 2) A group regarding Bus Services in the Cross Green, East End Park, Saxton Gardens and Richmond Hill area.
- 3) Aire Street Workshops Committee – regarding a multi-tenancy building owned by the Council.

RESOLVED – That the subject matter in respect of deputations 1, 2 and 3 be referred to the Director of City Development for consideration in consultation with the relevant Executive Member.

35 Report - Community Committee Annual Report

It was moved by Councillor Coupar, seconded by Councillor Ogilvie and

RESOLVED – That the report of the Director of Communities & Environment presenting to Council the Community Committees' Annual report for 2016/17 be received and that the work now being progressed to further improve the

effectiveness, community engagement role and improvement work of Community Committees be noted.

36 **Report on Appointments**

It was moved by Councillor Ogilvie, seconded by Councillor G Latty and

RESOLVED – That the report of the City Solicitor on appointments be approved, namely that Councillor G Latty replace Councillor J Procter on the Development Plan Panel.

37 **Questions**

Q1 In accordance with Councillor Procedure Rule 11.1(c) Councillor John Procter to the Executive Member (Resources and Strategy):-

Will the Executive Member for Resources and Strategy now confirm that the £4.8m loan given by the LEP and held by Leeds City Council for the Arena Hotel scheme has now been lost?

In accordance with Council procedure rule 11.3 (b) the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning)replied.

Q2 Councillor J Bentley to the Executive Member (Resources and Strategy):-

Would the Executive Member inform Council of the extent of its exposure to the commercial property sector and what independent advice has been taken to assess the risk of these investments?

The Executive Member (Resources and Strategy) replied.

Q3 Councillor Selby to the Leader of Council :-

Please will the Leader of Council update members on the city's bid to be European Capital of Culture in 2023?

The Leader of Council replied.

Q4 Councillor D Blackburn to the Chair of West Yorkshire Combined Authority's Transport Committee:-

Does the Chair of West Yorkshire Combined Authority's Transport Committee agree that the only way the West Yorkshire Bus Strategy will be successful is for the operators here in Leeds and throughout West Yorkshire to actually deliver improvements, rather than just making promises?

The Chair of West Yorkshire Combined Authority's Transport Committee replied.

Q5 Councillor Towler to the Executive Member (Children and Families):-

Would the Executive Member for Children and Families like to comment on the impact of under resourcing of schools in Leeds?

The Executive Member (Children and Families) replied.

Q6 Withdrawn

Q7 Councillor Downes to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning):-

Given that Metro and then subsequently WYCA have been testing a YORCARD for approximately 10 years, what is the start date for its introduction across the whole of public transport in West Yorkshire?

In accordance with Council procedure rule 11.3 (b) the Chair of West Yorkshire Combined Authority's Transport Committee replied.

Q8 Councillor Groves to the Executive Member (Resources and Strategy):-

Would the Executive Member like to comment on the number of taxi's operating in Leeds who hold registered licenses in other authorities?

The Executive Member (Resources and Strategy) replied.

Q9 Councillor Venner to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning):-

Please can the Executive Member provide an update on Linton Bridge?

The Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning)replied.

Q10 Councillor Stephenson to the Executive Member (Communities):-

Reflecting on reports of drug-related deaths at Leeds & Reading Festivals, does the Executive Member for Communities regret failing to give the support required for drug testing to be provided by drug safety charity 'The Loop' at this year's festival?

The Executive Member (Communities) 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:-

Q11 Councillor S Bentley to the Executive Member (Communities).

Q12 Councillor R Grahame to the Executive Member (Employment, Skills and Opportunity).

Q13 Councillor Hamilton to the Executive Member (Communities).

Q14 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Environment and Sustainability).

Q15 Councillor Downes to the Executive Member (Environment and Sustainability).

Q16 Councillor G Hussain to the Executive Member (Health, Wellbeing and Adults).

Q17 Councillor Ragan to the Executive Member (Environment and Sustainability).

Q18 Councillor Flynn to the Executive Member (Health, Well-being and Adults).

- Q19 Councillor S Bentley to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning).
- Q20 Councillor Stephenson to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning).
- Q21 Councillor Golton to the Executive Member (Environment and sustainability).
- Q22 Councillor Wilkinson to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning).
- Q23 Councillor Flynn to the Executive Member (Resources and Strategy).
- Q24 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning).
- Q25 Councillor B Anderson to the Leader of Council.
- Q26 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Health, Wellbeing and Adults).
- Q27 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Environment and Sustainability).
- Q28 Councillor C Anderson to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning).
- Q29 Councillor Stephenson to the Executive Member (Leader of Council).
- Q30 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Environment and Sustainability).
- Q31 Councillor Robinson to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning).
- Q32 Councillor C Anderson to the Executive Member (Health, Wellbeing and Adults).
- Q33 Councillor Caroline Anderson to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning).
- Q34 Councillor Matthew Robinson to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning).

38 Minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Executive Board

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

RESOLVED – 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.

At the conclusion of this item Council adjourned from 16.25 to 17.00

39 Report on Devolution

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

RESOLVED – That the report of the Chief Executive updating Members on matters in respect of devolution be received.

40 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor J Procter) - Core Strategy Housing Target

It was moved by Councillor J Procter, seconded by Councillor B Anderson that this Council welcomes the initial findings from the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) suggesting that the ruling Labour administration has indeed set a Core Strategy housing target far in excess of what the city actually required.

Council is concerned about the damage already done to communities in Leeds as a result of their 70,000 target and recalls the many warnings from opposition parties that the council leadership ignored over the past 5 years regarding this inflated figure.

70,000 houses was neither desirable nor deliverable and this Council looks forward to a housing target that is based on reality as opposed to a political view founded in the Regional Spatial Strategies of the Blair/Brown years.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Campbell, seconded by Councillor J Bentley, 'Delete all after "(SHMA)"

Amended Motion would read;

'that this Council welcomes the initial findings from the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA)'

A second amendment was moved by Councillor R Lewis, seconded by Councillor C Gruen , *Delete all after "This Council" and replace with:*

"welcomes the Labour Administration's decision to instigate a review of the government inspector-approved 70,000 housing target number in the Core Strategy.

Council notes the initial findings from the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMAA) and recognises that, in line with national guidance, it will take some time before the revised numbers can be used to take planning decisions.

Council recognises the milestone made in submitting the Site Allocation Plan for examination in public and the importance that this process has in strengthening the ability to resist inappropriate planning applications, which cause anger and frustration in many areas of the city.

Council therefore calls on all political groups to put the clear interests of the city and our residents first and support the Site Allocations Plan."

Amended Motion would read;

"This Council welcomes the Labour Administration's decision to instigate a review of the government inspector-approved 70,000 housing target number in the Core Strategy.

Council notes the initial findings from the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMAA) and recognises that, in line with national guidance, it will take some time before the revised numbers can be used to take planning decisions.

Council recognises the milestone made in submitting the Site Allocation Plan for examination in public and the importance that this process has in strengthening the ability to resist inappropriate planning applications, which cause anger and frustration in many areas of the city.

Council therefore calls on all political groups to put the clear interests of the city and our residents first and support the Site Allocations Plan.”

The amendment in the name of Councillor Campbell was declared lost

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

RESOLVED – That this Council welcomes the Labour Administration’s decision to instigate a review of the government inspector-approved 70,000 housing target number in the Core Strategy.

Council notes the initial findings from the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMAA) and recognises that, in line with national guidance, it will take some time before the revised numbers can be used to take planning decisions.

Council recognises the milestone made in submitting the Site Allocation Plan for examination in public and the importance that this process has in strengthening the ability to resist inappropriate planning applications, which cause anger and frustration in many areas of the city.

Council therefore calls on all political groups to put the clear interests of the city and our residents first and support the Site Allocations Plan.

On the requisition of Councillor G Latty and Cohen the voting on the amendment in the name of Councillor Campbell was recorded as follows;

YES – 11

J Bentley, A Blackburn, D Blackburn, Campbell, Cleasby, Elliott, Gettings, Golton, Lay, Leadley and Varley

NO – 73

Akhtar, B Anderson, C Anderson, Arif, Blake, Bruce, Buckley, Amanda Carter, Charlwood, Cohen, Congreve, Coulson, Coupar, Davey, Dawson, C Dobson, M Dobson, Dunn, Field, Flynn, Gabriel, Garthwaite, P Grahame, R Grahame, Groves, C Gruen, P Gruen, Hamilton, Harland, Harper, Harrand, Hayden, Heselwood, G Hussain, Hyde, Illingworth, Khan, Lamb, G Latty, P Latty, J Lewis, R Lewis, Lyons, Lowe, Macniven, Maqsood, J McKenna, S McKenna, Mulherin, Nagle, Nash, Ogilvie, J Procter, Pryor, Rafique, Ragan, Renshaw, Ritchie, Robinson, Selby, Smart, Stephenson, E Taylor, Towler, Truswell, Tunnicliffe, Venner, Wadsworth, Wakefield, Walshaw, Wilkinson, Wood and Yeadon.

ABSTAIN – 0

On the requisition of Councillor G Latty and Cohen the voting on the amendment in the name of Councillor R Lewis was recorded as follows;

YES – 55

Akhtar, Arif, Blake, Bruce, Charlwood, Congreve, Coulson, Coupar, Davey, Dawson, C Dobson, Dunn, Gabriel, Garthwaite, P Grahame, R Grahame, Groves, C Gruen, P Gruen, Hamilton, Harland, Harper, Hayden, Heselwood, G Hussain, Hyde, Illingworth, Khan, J Lewis, R Lewis, Lyons, Lowe, Macniven, Maqsood, J McKenna, S McKenna, Mulherin, Nagle, Nash, Ogilvie, Pryor, Rafique, Ragan, Renshaw, Ritchie, Selby, Smart, E Taylor, Towler, Truswell, Tunnicliffe, Venner, Wakefield, Walshaw, and Yeadon.

NO – 25

B Anderson, C Anderson, J Bentley, A Blackburn, D Blackburn, Buckley, Campbell, Amanda Carter, Cleasby, Cohen, M Dobson, Field, Flynn, Golton, Harrand, Lamb, G Latty, P Latty, Lay, J Procter, Robinson, Stephenson, Wadsworth, Wilkinson and Wood

ABSTAIN – 4

Elliott, Gettings, Leadley, and Varley

On the requisition of Councillor G Latty and Cohen the voting on the substantive motion in the name of Councillor R Lewis was recorded as follows;

YES – 55

Akhtar, Arif, Blake, Bruce, Charlwood, Congreve, Coulson, Coupar, Davey, Dawson, C Dobson, Dunn, Gabriel, Garthwaite, P Grahame, R Grahame, Groves, C Gruen, P Gruen, Hamilton, Harland, Harper, Hayden, Heselwood, G Hussain, Hyde, Illingworth, Khan, J Lewis, R Lewis, Lyons, Lowe, Macniven, Maqsood, J McKenna, S McKenna, Mulherin, Nagle, Nash, Ogilvie, Pryor, Rafique, Ragan, Renshaw, Ritchie, Selby, Smart, E Taylor, Towler, Truswell, Tunnicliffe, Venner, Wakefield, Walshaw, and Yeadon.

NO – 25

B Anderson, C Anderson, J Bentley, A Blackburn, D Blackburn, Buckley, Campbell, Amanda Carter, Cleasby, Cohen, M Dobson, Field, Flynn, Golton, Harrand, Lamb, G Latty, P Latty, Lay, J Procter, Robinson, Stephenson, Wadsworth, Wilkinson and Wood

ABSTAIN – 4

Elliott, Gettings, Leadley, and Varley

41 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Blake) - Government Investment

It was moved by Councillor Blake, seconded by Councillor Pryor that this Council believes the economy of the North does not currently perform to its full potential due to a lack of investment in crucial infrastructure such as transport, education and housing.

Council believes as the UK moves closer to Brexit, significant investment is needed to increase economic growth across the North and rebalance the national economy which will benefit the wealth of the country as a whole.

Council believes this longstanding deficiency stops children and young people in Leeds making the most of their potential through life and discourages inward investment and economic growth. Evidence demonstrates inadequate transport

networks limit journeys for freight and people, businesses cannot recruit qualified staff and low pay is endemic.

This Council regrets recent attempts by cabinet ministers to abdicate responsibility for addressing these issues and agrees to write to the Prime Minister to seek assurances on much-needed Government investment.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Campbell, seconded by Councillor Lay, 'in paragraph three, delete "*children and young people in Leeds*" and replace with "*citizens in Leeds from*"

A second amendment was moved by Councillor Lamb, seconded by Councillor Buckley

Delete all after 'This Council' and replace with:

is concerned that the ruling administration continues to look to Government rather than delivering proactive and innovative ways of dealing with issues in Leeds. Council sees this as an attempt to abdicate responsibility for dealing with key issues here in our city as highlighted by the failure to secure a devolution deal for our region over the past 5 years.

Council welcomes record investment into the region under successive Conservative Governments, including the UK's largest Growth Deal agreed for the Leeds City Region and recalls the disappointing levels of investment in Leeds under the last Labour Government, highlighted by the last minute scrapping of the Supertram scheme.

Council notes the successes achieved here in Leeds thanks to the Conservative Government's long-term economic plan and competent stewardship of the public finances since 2010. This has resulted in Leeds experiencing the fastest private sector jobs growth of any UK city; having the largest concentration of financial and professional services and digital jobs in the UK outside of London; recording the second highest productivity levels of the core cities; and, in the Leader of Council's own words, delivering "a strong economy that has enabled the city to recover well from the recession."

Council recognises that it is business and commerce, supported by central government economic policy that has contributed to record growth in the city and Council welcomes continued government investment into the region.

The amendments in the name of Councillor Campbell and Councillor Lamb were declared lost and upon the motion being put to the vote it was

RESOLVED – That this Council believes the economy of the North does not currently perform to its full potential due to a lack of investment in crucial infrastructure such as transport, education and housing.

Council believes as the UK moves closer to Brexit, significant investment is needed to increase economic growth across the North and rebalance the national economy which will benefit the wealth of the country as a whole.

Council believes this longstanding deficiency stops children and young people in Leeds making the most of their potential through life and discourages inward investment and economic growth. Evidence demonstrates inadequate transport networks limit journeys for freight and people, businesses cannot recruit qualified staff and low pay is endemic.

This Council regrets recent attempts by cabinet ministers to abdicate responsibility for addressing these issues and agrees to write to the Prime Minister to seek assurances on much-needed Government investment.

42 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Field) - WASPI (Women Against State Pension Inequality)

It was moved by Councillor Field, seconded by Councillor Campbell that this Council calls on the Government to urgently undertake a review of the State Pension Laws 1995 and 2011 and how they impact on woman in Leeds born in the 1950s, who have found the goalposts moved in terms of when they receive their state pension.

Further, that this Council supports the WASPI (Women Against State Pension Inequality) campaign group, which campaigns for justice for all women born in the 1950s affected by the changes to the State Pension Law (1995/2011 Acts).

The 1995 Pension Act included plans to increase women's SPA (State Pension Age) to 65, the same as men's. WASPI agrees with equalisation, but does not agree with the unfair way the changes are being implemented – with little or no personal notice (1995/2011 Pension Acts), faster than promised (2011 Pension Act), and no time to make alternative plans.

Retirement plans have been shattered with devastating consequences.

WASPI is seeking to achieve fair state pension transitional arrangements for those women born in the 1950s, affected by those two pieces of legislation, who have already reached what would have been their state pension age.

This Council supports those aims and calls on the Government to act on legislation which has negatively affected often low paid women, who were relying on their state pension in retirement.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Coupar, seconded by Councillor Heselwood,

Delete all after "alternative plans" and replace with:

"Many women born in the 1950's are living in hardship. Retirement plans have been shattered with devastating consequences. Many of these women are already out of the labour market, caring for elderly relatives, providing childcare for grandchildren, or suffer discrimination in the workplace so struggle to find employment.

Women born in this decade are suffering financially. These women have worked hard, raised families and paid their tax and national insurance with the expectation that they would be financially secure when reaching 60. It is not the pension age itself that is in dispute - it is widely accepted that women and men should retire at the same time.

The issue is that the rise in the women's state pension age has been too rapid and has happened without sufficient notice being given to the women affected, leaving women with no time to make alternative arrangements.

This council notes the Executive Member for Communities raised this at Full Council on 14th September 2016, condemns the way the conservative government has implemented these changes, calls on the government to reconsider transitional arrangements for women born on or after 6th April 1951 so women do not live in hardship, and introduce legislation so accrued rights to the basic state pension cannot be changed in the future. "

Amended motion will read:

“This Council calls on the Government to urgently undertake a review of the State Pension Laws 1995 and 2011 and how they impact on women in Leeds born in the 1950s, who have found the goalposts moved in terms of when they receive their state pension.

Further, that this Council supports the WASPI (Women Against State Pension Inequality) campaign group, which campaigns for justice for all women born in the 1950s affected by the changes to the State Pension Law (1995/2011 Acts).

The 1995 Pension Act included plans to increase women’s SPA (State Pension Age) to 65, the same as men’s. WASPI agrees with equalisation, but does not agree with the unfair way the changes are being implemented – with little or no personal notice (1995/2011 Pension Acts), faster than promised (2011 Pension Act), and no time to make alternative plans.

Many women born in the 1950's are living in hardship. Retirement plans have been shattered with devastating consequences. Many of these women are already out of the labour market, caring for elderly relatives, providing childcare for grandchildren, or suffer discrimination in the workplace so struggle to find employment.

Women born in this decade are suffering financially. These women have worked hard, raised families and paid their tax and national insurance with the expectation that they would be financially secure when reaching 60. It is not the pension age itself that is in dispute - it is widely accepted that women and men should retire at the same time.

The issue is that the rise in the women's state pension age has been too rapid and has happened without sufficient notice being given to the women affected, leaving women with no time to make alternative arrangements.

This council notes the Executive Member for Communities raised this at Full Council on 14th September 2016, condemns the way the conservative government has implemented these changes, calls on the government to reconsider transitional arrangements for women born on or after 6th April 1951 so women do not live in hardship, and introduce legislation so accrued rights to the basic state pension cannot be changed in the future. “

A second amendment was moved by Councillor P Latty, seconded by Councillor Robinson

Delete all after paragraph 1 and replace with:

‘This Council supports Government moves to equalise pension ages between men and women and notes measures already put in place to mitigate the impact of some of the changes worth over £1bn. However, Council acknowledges the WASPI campaign to introduce transition arrangements for women born in the 1950’s and supports a further review to respond to these concerns.’

Amended Motion will read:

‘This Council calls on the Government to urgently undertake a review of the State Pension Laws 1995 and 2011 and how they impact on woman in Leeds born in the 1950s, who have found the goalposts moved in terms of when they receive their state pension.

This Council supports Government moves to equalise pension ages between men and women and notes measures already put in place to mitigate the impact of some of the changes worth over £1bn. However, Council acknowledges the WASPI campaign to introduce transition arrangements for women born in the 1950's and supports a further review to respond to these concerns.'

The amendment in the name of Councillor P Latty was declared lost.

The amendment in the name of Councillor Coupar was carried and upon being put to the vote as the substantive motion it was

RESOLVED – That this Council calls on the Government to urgently undertake a review of the State Pension Laws 1995 and 2011 and how they impact on women in Leeds born in the 1950s, who have found the goalposts moved in terms of when they receive their state pension.

Further, that this Council supports the WASPI (Women Against State Pension Inequality) campaign group, which campaigns for justice for all women born in the 1950s affected by the changes to the State Pension Law (1995/2011 Acts).

The 1995 Pension Act included plans to increase women's SPA (State Pension Age) to 65, the same as men's. WASPI agrees with equalisation, but does not agree with the unfair way the changes are being implemented – with little or no personal notice (1995/2011 Pension Acts), faster than promised (2011 Pension Act), and no time to make alternative plans.

Many women born in the 1950's are living in hardship. Retirement plans have been shattered with devastating consequences. Many of these women are already out of the labour market, caring for elderly relatives, providing childcare for grandchildren, or suffer discrimination in the workplace so struggle to find employment.

Women born in this decade are suffering financially. These women have worked hard, raised families and paid their tax and national insurance with the expectation that they would be financially secure when reaching 60. It is not the pension age itself that is in dispute - it is widely accepted that women and men should retire at the same time.

The issue is that the rise in the women's state pension age has been too rapid and has happened without sufficient notice being given to the women affected, leaving women with no time to make alternative arrangements.

This council notes the Executive Member for Communities raised this at Full Council on 14th September 2016, condemns the way the conservative government has implemented these changes, calls on the government to reconsider transitional arrangements for women born on or after 6th April 1951 so women do not live in hardship, and introduce legislation so accrued rights to the basic state pension cannot be changed in the future.

Council rose at 7.40 pm