

Proceedings of the Meeting of the Leeds City Council held  
Civic Hall, Leeds on Wednesday, 13th September, 2023

**PRESENT:** The Lord Mayor Councillor Al Garthwaite in the Chair.

**WARD**

**ADEL & WHARFEDALE**

Billy Flynn  
Barry John Anderson  
Caroline Anderson

**ALWOODLEY**

Lyn Buckley  
Dan Cohen  
Neil Buckley

**ARDSLEY & ROBIN HOOD**

Karen Renshaw  
Mike Foster

**ARMLEY**

Andy Parnham  
Alice Smart  
James McKenna

**BEESTON & HOLBECK**

Andrew Scopes  
Annie Maloney  
Gohar Almas

**BRAMLEY & STANNINGLEY**

Tom Hinchcliffe  
Kevin Ritchie  
Caroline Gruen

**BURMANTOFTS & RICHMOND HILL**

Nkele Manaka  
Luke Farley  
Asghar Khan

**WARD**

**CALVERLEY & FARSLEY**

Peter Carlill  
Andrew Carter  
Amanda Carter

**CHAPEL ALLERTON**

Jane Dowson  
Eileen Taylor  
Mohammed Rafique

**CROSS GATES & WHINMOOR**

Pauleen Grahame  
James Gibson  
Jessica Lennox

**FARNLEY & WORTLEY**

David Blackburn  
Mark Swards  
Adrian McCluskey

**GARFORTH & SWILLINGTON**

Mark Dobson  
Sarah Field

**GIPTON & HAREHILLS**

Asghar Ali  
Salma Arif  
Arif Hussain

**GUISELEY & RAWDON**

Oliver Edwards  
Eleanor Thomson  
Paul Alderson

**HAREWOOD**

Ryan Stephenson  
Matthew James Robinson  
Sam Firth

**HEADINGLEY & HYDE PARK**

Abdul Hannan  
Jonathon Pryor  
Alison Garthwaite

**HORSFORTH**

Raymond Jones  
Emmie Bromley  
John Garvani

**HUNSLET & RIVERSIDE**

Paul Wray  
Mohammed Iqbal  
Ed Carlisle

**KILLINGBECK & SEACROFT**

Katie Dye  
John Tudor  
David Jenkins

**KIPPAX & METHLEY**

Michael Millar  
Mary Elizabeth Harland  
James Lewis

**KIRKSTALL**

Andy Rontree  
Hannah Bithell  
Fiona Elizabeth Venner

**LITTLE LONDON & WOODHOUSE**

Abigail Marshall-Katung  
Kayleigh Brooks  
Javaid Akhtar

**MIDDLETON PARK**

Emma Pogson-Golden  
Wayne Dixon  
Sharon Burke

**MOORTOWN**

Mahalia France-Mir  
Sharon Hamilton  
Mohammed Shahzad

**MORLEY NORTH**

Robert Finnigan  
Robert Gettings MBE JP  
Andy Hutchison

**MORLEY SOUTH**

Wyn Kidger  
Oliver Newton  
Jane Senior

**OTLEY & YEADON**

Ryk Downes  
Colin Campbell  
Sandy Edward Charles Lay

**PUDSEY**

Trish Smith  
Simon Seary  
Dawn Seary

**ROTHWELL**

Diane Chapman  
Barry Stewart Golton  
Conrad Hart-Brooke

**ROUNDHAY**

Jordan Bowden  
Zara Hussain  
Lisa Martin

**TEMPLE NEWSAM**

Nicole Sharp  
Debra Coupar  
Helen Hayden

**WEETWOOD**

Julie Heselwood  
Izaak Wilson  
Emma Flint

**WETHERBY**

Norma Harrington  
Alan James Lamb

### **31 Announcements**

a) The Lord Mayor welcomed members to this meeting of Full Council and reminded those present that the meeting was to be streamed live.

b) The Lord Mayor informed Council that the meeting would be adjourned for a short break at an appropriate time in the afternoon.

c) The Lord Mayor informed Council that she had agreed for the inclusion at the meeting a late item which wasn't available at the time of the agenda despatch - A report on changes to the Executive Arrangements.

d) The Lord Mayor informed Council that she was delighted today to be wearing a very special garment designed by artist Keith Khan and featuring 33 unique motifs, each unique motif celebrating each of our 33 wards-across Leeds as part of LEEDS 2023 project.

e) The Lord Mayor informed Council that she would be participating in 2 events for the Lord Mayor's Charity, Simon on The Streets Sleep Out on Thursday 19 October and the Abbey Dash on Sunday 22 October.

### **32 Minutes of the last Meeting**

It was moved by Councillor Flint, seconded by Councillor Stephenson and

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023 be approved.

### **33 Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations of interests made at this point in the meeting, during the course of the meeting Councillor Dobson declared an interest see minute 44 for further details.

### **34 Communications**

There were no communications.

### **35 Deputations**

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

- 1) Residents of Inner North-West Leeds.
- 2) A deputation on behalf of Plant based councils.
- 3) Leeds City of Sanctuary

**RESOLVED** – That the subject matter in respect of deputation 1 be referred to the Director of City Development and the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment for consideration in consultation with the relevant Executive Members, that the subject matter in respect of deputation 2 and 3 be referred to the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment for consideration in consultation with the relevant Executive Member.

**36 Changes to Executive Arrangements**

It was moved by Councillor Lewis seconded by Councillor Flint and

**RESOLVED** – That the amendment to Part 3 Section 3F Appointment to West Yorkshire Joint Services Committee be noted.

**37 Report on Appointments**

It was moved by Councillor Flint, seconded by Councillor Stephenson and

**RESOLVED** – That the report of the City Solicitor on appointments be approved, namely;

- That Cllr Flynn replace Cllr Alderson on Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure, Investment & Inclusive Growth)
- That Cllr Alderson replace Cllr Firth on Scrutiny Board (Adults, Health & Active Lifestyles)
- That Cllr Firth replace Cllr Flynn on Scrutiny Board (Strategy and Resources).
- That Cllr Firth replace Cllr Flynn on the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee.
- That Cllr Firth fill the Conservative Group vacancy on the Licensing Committee.

**38 Report on Community Committees**

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

**RESOLVED** – That the report of the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment presenting to Council the Community Committees' Annual Report for 2022/23 be received and that the work now being progressed to further improve the effectiveness, community engagement role and improvement work of the Community Committees, via the Community Committee Review be noted.

At the conclusion of this item Council had a brief adjournment 15:10 to 15:25.

**39 Report Annual Report of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee**

It was moved by Councillor France-Mir, seconded by Councillor Coupar and

**RESOLVED** - That the report of the Chief Officer Financial Services be received and the matters set out in the annual report reflecting the work of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee in the 2022-23 municipal year be noted.

**40 Procedural Motion**

It was moved by Councillor Stephenson, seconded by Councillor Alderson that leave of Council be given to suspend Council Procedure Rule 11.2 (Notice of Questions) to allow;

- Question 16 in the name of Cllr Stephenson to be heard as Q1
- Q1 in the name of Cllr Lamb to be heard as Q6
- Q6 in the name of Cllr Alderson to be heard as Q16.

Upon being put to the vote the Procedural Motion was lost.

## 41 Executive Questions

Q1 Councillor Lamb to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure):-

Does the Executive Member for Sustainable Development & Infrastructure stand by her statements that “elected members should not need to see their resident’s comments to form an opinion about a planning application” and “you should use the values you have as a party to determine whether a planning application should go ahead”?

The Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure) replied.

Q2 Councillor Campbell to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure):-

18 months ago a cycle path was installed at Wharfemeadows Park in Otley. When the path was complete the Council failed to install the appropriate signage. Following pressure from ward members signage was eventually installed but unfortunately in the wrong location. For the last eight months or so, ward members have sent e-mails, met with officers and even asked a question in Council but the signs still direct cyclists through a children's play area.

Could the Executive member please inform Council what major issue prevents these three signs from being located in the positions shown on the original plan?

The Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure) replied.

Q3 Councillor Wilson to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure):-

Would the Executive Member please give an update on the Public E Bike Hire Scheme coming to Leeds?

The Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure) replied.

Q4 Councillor Carlisle to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space):-

Given that DEFRA announced in June that Councils would have to scrap DIY waste charges for residents at recycling sites, by the end of this year, can the Executive Member for Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space confirm when Leeds is going to stop charging these fees?

The Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space) replied.

Q5 Councillor Hamilton to the Executive Member (Communities):-

Could the Executive Member please give an update on the housing of refugees and migrants within Leeds?

The Executive Member (Communities) replied.

Q6 Councillor Alderson to the Executive Member (Resources):-

Since coming into operation on 1 April 2023, please can the Executive Member for Resources provide Council with the number of Fixed Penalty Notices, or convictions of a criminal offence, that have been issued across the city and in particular in my ward of Guiseley & Rawdon, as part of the PSPO for vehicular nuisance?

The Executive Member (Resources) replied.

Q7 Councillor Chapman to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education):-

Could the Executive Member inform me what the Council is doing / plans to do to support local communities that no longer have access to a local bank providing cash deposit and banking / financial advice as well as cash withdrawal services as a result of the closure of bank branches?

The Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education) 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:-

Q8 Councillor Tudor to the Executive Member (Housing):-

Q9 Councillor Blackburn to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space):-

Q10 Councillor Bithell to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education).

Q11 Councillor Robinson to the Executive Member (Housing).

Q12 Councillor Hart-Brooke to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure)

Q13 Councillor Scopes to the Executive Member (Children Social Care and Health Partnerships).

Q14 Councillor Stables to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).

Q15 Councillor Dye to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).

Q16 Councillor Stephenson to the Leader of Council.

Q17 Councillor Downes to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).

Q18 Councillor Dixon to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).

Q19 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).

Q20 Councillor Campbell to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure)

- Q21 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Housing).
- Q22 Councillor Hart-Brooke to the Executive Member (Housing).
- Q23 Councillor Alderson to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).
- Q24 Councillor Chapman to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).
- Q25 Councillor Robinson to the Leader of Council.
- Q26 Councillor Campbell to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).
- Q27 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).
- Q28 Councillor Chapman to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).
- Q29 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Housing).
- Q30 Councillor Campbell to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).
- Q31 Councillor Robinson to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure)
- Q32 Councillor Chapman to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).
- Q33 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Resources).
- Q34 Councillor Campbell to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure)
- Q35 Councillor Buckley to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure)
- Q36 Councillor Chapman to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).
- Q37 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure)
- Q38 Councillor Golton to the Leader of Council.
- Q39 Councillor Flynn to the Executive Member (Resources).
- Q40 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Housing).
- Q41 Councillor Flynn to the Executive Member (Resources).
- Q42 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Housing).

Q43 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Communities).

Q44 Councillor Robinson to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).

**42 Minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Executive Board**

It was moved by Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Flint 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 16.20 to 16.55

**43 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Lamb) - Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ)**

It was moved by Councillor Lamb, seconded by Councillor Buckley that under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 13.2(d) and 14.10 that leave of Council be given to withdraw the motion in his name and that under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule (CPR) 22.1 (Suspension of CPRs), that CPR 12.1(a) (motions on notice) be suspended to allow the introduction of a motion at short notice.

Leave of Council was given to withdraw the motion and therefore the 3 submitted amendments associated with the original white paper motion fell.

The original motion and amendments are set out below in *italics*

*That this Council in principle rules out the introduction of an Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) in Leeds.*

*An amendment was submitted by Councillor Blackburn*

*Delete all after "This Council" and replace with*

*"... notes that vehicle emissions not only damage our environment, but also have serious impact upon the health of our citizens. Council therefore resolves to do all that is reasonably possible to reduce the level of these emissions in our city.*

*Furthermore, this Council decries the increasing 'weaponisation' of social issues like the ULEZ in the pursuit of mindless culture wars, that distract us from the important work of building a fair and sustainable society."*

*The amended White Paper will then read:*

*This Council notes that vehicle emissions not only damage our environment, but also have serious impact upon the health of our citizens. Council therefore resolves to do all that is reasonably possible to reduce the level of these emissions in our city.*

*Furthermore, this Council decries the increasing 'weaponisation' of social issues like the ULEZ in the pursuit of mindless culture wars, that distract us from the important work of building a fair and sustainable society.*



*A second amendment was submitted by Councillor Golton;*

*Delete all after 'This Council'*

*and replace with 'believes that all Leeds citizens have the right to breathe clean air'*

*The amended White Paper will then read:*

*This Council believes that all Leeds citizens have the right to breathe clean air.*

*A third amendment was submitted by Councillor Rafique*

*In the first paragraph, after "This Council in principle rules out introduction of" insert:*

*"vehicle and road use charges as part of...."*

*In the first paragraph, after "an Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) in Leeds" insert:*

*"....and commits to improving air quality across the city.*

*However, Council notes this issue could be taken out of our hands as it was in 2017 when the Conservative Government directed the Council to consider measures to improve Air Quality in Leeds including through a charging Clean Air Zone. Council further notes in 2020 other actions taken by this Council to improve air quality meant the Government agreed a Clean Air Zone was no longer necessary.*

*Council welcomes measures set out in the Leeds Air Quality Strategy and Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy that are helping to improve air quality in Leeds. Council is concerned the Government's failure to support some measures identified in the strategies, including public transport improvements, risks compromising the good progress made so far to improve air quality for Leeds residents.*

*Council is concerned by the inconsistent approach to Air Quality standards taken by the current Conservative Government. Council therefore calls on the Government to reconsider its approach and provide sufficient support to local areas to ensure air quality continues to improve and avoid the need for measures such as a Clean Air Zone."*

*Amended motion to read:*

*"This Council in principle rules out the introduction of vehicle and road use charges as part of an Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) in Leeds and commits to improving air quality across the city.*

*However, Council notes this issue could be taken out of our hands as it was in 2017 when the Conservative Government directed the Council to consider measures to improve Air Quality in Leeds including through a charging Clean Air Zone. Council further notes in 2020 other actions taken by this Council to improve air quality meant the Government agreed a Clean Air Zone was no longer necessary.*

*Council welcomes measures set out in the Leeds Air Quality Strategy and Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy that are helping to improve air quality in Leeds. Council is concerned the Government's failure to support some measures identified in the strategies, including public transport improvements, risks compromising the good progress made so far to improve air quality for Leeds residents.*

*Council is concerned by the inconsistent approach to Air Quality standards taken by the current Conservative Government. Council therefore calls on the Government to reconsider its approach and provide sufficient support to local areas to ensure air quality continues to improve and avoid the need for measures such as a Clean Air Zone.”*

With leave of Council it was moved by Councillor Lamb, seconded by Councillor Lewis that this Council in principle rules out the introduction of an Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) in Leeds, and also believes that all Leeds citizens have the right to breathe clean air.

Council agrees to bring forward an Executive Board report setting out future actions on improving air quality.

**RESOLVED** – That this Council in principle rules out the introduction of an Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) in Leeds, and also believes that all Leeds citizens have the right to breathe clean air.

Council agrees to bring forward an Executive Board report setting out future actions on improving air quality.

#### **44 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Carlisle) - Economy**

It was moved by Councillor Carlisle, seconded by Councillor Blackburn that this Council recognises the immense importance of building a strong local economy. We celebrate work including the Inclusive Growth strategy, but note that established economic systems are failing to enact broad social, economic, and environmental benefits – locally, and across the world.

We are committed to deepening our relationship with and commitment to the work of bodies including the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) and the New Economics Foundation, especially around the unique importance of ‘community wealth building’. Local authorities have a key part to play in recalibrating local economies, to ensure maximum wealth, opportunities, and wellbeing for local communities.

Council will therefore create a 10 year strategy – with clear and measurable outcomes – based upon the so-called Preston Model, to become the UK core city with the most locally-focused economy, rooted in systemic commitments to redirect investment into the local economy, and thereby help build a fairer and more resilient city and region.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Pryor, seconded by Councillor Martin

Delete All after “This Council recognises” and replace with:

“... the necessity of building a strong local economy through Community Wealth Building Strategies. Council is proud of our Leeds Model.

Council notes there is a long tradition of Community Wealth Building across the Labour, Co-Operative and Trade Union Movement and Leeds has seen the benefit of this.

Leeds aims to become a Real Living Wage City and Council is proud to have been paying the Living Wage Foundation Real Living Wage since 2015, to all

council workers, including apprentices and homecare workers who work for external providers commissioned by the Council.

During a time of outsourcing and privatisation by many local authorities, Council takes pride in the fact that the vast majority of Leeds City Council services are provided by in-house teams, with one of the largest in-house workforces of any council in the UK.

Leeds Anchor Network brings together 14 of the city's biggest institutions to maximise the benefits of employment, procurement, infrastructure, service delivery behaviours for local people.

Council is aligned to the TUC's 'Great Jobs Agenda', ensuring that jobs are good jobs and has policy against detrimental practices such as 'fire and rehire'. Council will continue to work with the whole Leeds Anchor Network through its Employment Group to adopt best practice in areas including recruitment, mental health, and pay and conditions.

As part of the Leeds Best City Ambition launched in May 2022, Council is also working with the Anchor Network in several areas.

- A project funded by the Health Foundation aims to improve health inequalities in the most disadvantaged communities, connecting people to quality jobs and identifying new pathways to employment.
- Work is ongoing to ensure that investments help reach the Carbon Net Zero by 2030 target, working with Leeds City College to develop a pipeline of projects around green jobs to create good employment for the present and the future that also secures the local economy with much needed skills.
- Locality working in our most disadvantaged communities, tackling poverty and inequalities, increasing the footprint for working in priority neighbourhoods to cover all of the 12 most disadvantaged neighbourhoods, whilst also retaining a focus at the ward level on the city's 6 priority wards.
- Broadening the work with the Leeds Anchor Network to include the private sector through a Business Anchor Network. By investing in the local area where they operate, businesses are supporting potential workforces, suppliers, and customers. Having a meaningful local impact is often necessary for contracts with the public sector, a powerful motivator for employees and can be an important differentiator for businesses seeking to attract diverse and talented people. This work is essential in shaping the whole Leeds economy and the private sector would benefit significantly from a healthier and more productive workforce. Tools and resources will be made available for any business in Leeds that wants to re-invest in the city to create benefits for residents and communities.
- A Leeds Community Anchor Network has also been created; a Leeds-wide network of trusted third sector and faith organisations to better listen to communities, and find community solutions to improve access to meaningful employment in the city.

Council will continue to build on the work of the Neighbourhood Improvement Board as part of the city-wide strategic approach to tackle inequality and poverty linked to the Best City Ambition.

Council will continue to support Leeds Credit Union who have over 37,000 members as part of a sustainable co-operative, assisting people who may be

struggling for acceptance by traditional financial institutions to access financial products and services in a commercially viable way.

Council notes that jobs across West Yorkshire in the creative and cultural sector have risen by 17%, with 48,000 creative, cultural and sports roles advertised in the region over the past year. Already this demonstrates how targeted local investment in this sector from Leeds City Council and the Mayor of West Yorkshire, leads to more local jobs.

Council has adopted the Social Progress Index in order to go beyond 'traditional' ways of measuring economic success, raise our ambition and continue our commitment to inclusive growth and give demonstrable evidence of economic and social progress.

Leeds City Council is part of an Inclusive Growth Network; our Economic Policy team works with a range of bodies, which include CLES and NEF. The inclusive Growth Strategy is currently being refreshed to set out a plan to 2030, and as part of this Council has committed to increasing local spending from its budget of approximately £1 billion and supporting more local businesses to tender for work.

The Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) was involved in supporting early work on local spending through our Anchor Network and Council welcomes its continuing work including a live research project on gender inclusion, and greatly value the work CLES carried out in Leeds in 2019 to achieve local community wealth building.

Council notes the recent LGA Peer Review of Leeds City Council recently describing the work done as deep and collaborative partnership and we know that these successes in Leeds are down to this partnership working across local organisations, businesses and our third sector. Council will continue to work to improve our city's economy.

Council acknowledges that these successes have come internally from the city, and our greatest barrier to future successes of Leeds are ongoing Government cuts, which to Leeds City Council alone have totalled £2.53 billion since 2010."

A second amendment was moved by Councillor Firth, seconded by Councillor Cohen

Delete all after "This Council" and replace with:

"welcomes recent statistics published by the independent Office for National Statistics, which show the British economy is now 0.6 per cent bigger than before the global COVID pandemic; growing faster than Germany, France and Japan.

"Council notes this has been the pattern since 2010, with the U.K. economy outperforming all expectations and rejecting the declinist narrative of opposition commentators.

“Although the effects of the global pandemic still plague economies worldwide, Council believes the Leeds economy is best placed to continue growing if the government continues its focus on high growth sectors - technology, life sciences, finance, clean energy and advanced manufacturing.

“Council urges the government to bring forward plans in the forthcoming King’s Speech to deliver further supply side reforms: expanding childcare, helping people into work, including those on long-term sick, small business rate reform, and reducing personal taxation.

“With just over a year to go until the next U.K. General Election, Council calls on all opposition parties to finally share their own economic plans with voters: will they take the difficult decisions needed to deliver supply side reform and keep the U.K. economy growing, or will they revert to simply pumping £100 billion of borrowed money into the economy?”

The amendment in the name of Councillor Firth was declared lost the amendment in the name of Councillor Pryor was carried and upon being put to the vote it was

**RESOLVED** – That this Council recognises the necessity of building a strong local economy through Community Wealth Building Strategies. Council is proud of our Leeds Model.

Council notes there is a long tradition of Community Wealth Building across the Labour, Co-Operative and Trade Union Movement and Leeds has seen the benefit of this.

Leeds aims to become a Real Living Wage City and Council is proud to have been paying the Living Wage Foundation Real Living Wage since 2015, to all council workers, including apprentices and homecare workers who work for external providers commissioned by the Council.

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Council is aligned to the TUC’s ‘Great Jobs Agenda’, ensuring that jobs are good jobs and has policy against detrimental practices such as ‘fire and rehire’. Council will continue to work with the whole Leeds Anchor Network through its Employment Group to adopt best practice in areas including recruitment, mental health, and pay and conditions.

As part of the Leeds Best City Ambition launched in May 2022, Council is also working with the Anchor Network in several areas.

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- Work is ongoing to ensure that investments help reach the Carbon Net Zero by 2030 target, working with Leeds City College to develop a pipeline of projects around green jobs to create good employment for the present and the future that also secures the local economy with much needed skills.
- Locality working in our most disadvantaged communities, tackling poverty and inequalities, increasing the footprint for working in priority neighbourhoods to cover all of the 12 most disadvantaged neighbourhoods, whilst also retaining a focus at the ward level on the city's 6 priority wards.
- Broadening the work with the Leeds Anchor Network to include the private sector through a Business Anchor Network. By investing in the local area where they operate, businesses are supporting potential workforces, suppliers, and customers. Having a meaningful local impact is often necessary for contracts with the public sector, a powerful motivator for employees and can be an important differentiator for businesses seeking to attract diverse and talented people. This work is essential in shaping the whole Leeds economy and the private sector would benefit significantly from a healthier and more productive workforce. Tools and resources will be made available for any business in Leeds that wants to re-invest in the city to create benefits for residents and communities.
- A Leeds Community Anchor Network has also been created; a Leeds-wide network of trusted third sector and faith organisations to better listen to communities, and find community solutions to improve access to meaningful employment in the city.

Council will continue to build on the work of the Neighbourhood Improvement Board as part of the city-wide strategic approach to tackle inequality and poverty linked to the Best City Ambition.

Council will continue to support Leeds Credit Union who have over 37,000 members as part of a sustainable co-operative, assisting people who may be struggling for acceptance by traditional financial institutions to access financial products and services in a commercially viable way.

Council notes that jobs across West Yorkshire in the creative and cultural sector have risen by 17%, with 48,000 creative, cultural and sports roles advertised in the region over the past year. Already this demonstrates how targeted local investment in this sector from Leeds City Council and the Mayor of West Yorkshire, leads to more local jobs.

Council has adopted the Social Progress Index in order to go beyond 'traditional' ways of measuring economic success, raise our ambition and continue our commitment to inclusive growth and give demonstrable evidence of economic and social progress.

Leeds City Council is part of an Inclusive Growth Network; our Economic Policy team works with a range of bodies, which include CLES and NEF. The inclusive Growth Strategy is currently being refreshed to set out a plan to 2030, and as part of this Council has committed to increasing local spending from its budget of approximately £1 billion and supporting more local businesses to tender for work.

The Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) was involved in supporting early work on local spending through our Anchor Network and Council welcomes its continuing work including a live research project on gender

inclusion, and greatly value the work CLES carried out in Leeds in 2019 to achieve local community wealth building.

Council notes the recent LGA Peer Review of Leeds City Council recently describing the work done as deep and collaborative partnership and we know that these successes in Leeds are down to this partnership working across local organisations, businesses and our third sector. Council will continue to work to improve our city's economy.

Council acknowledges that these successes have come internally from the city, and our greatest barrier to future successes of Leeds are ongoing Government cuts, which to Leeds City Council alone have totalled £2.53 billion since 2010.”

Prior to discussion on this item Councillor Dobson declared an interest as a manager of a Leeds Anchor Network.

**45 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Pryor) - School Building Crisis**

It was moved by Councillor Pryor, seconded by Councillor Swards that it has been reported that when he was Chancellor, Rishi Sunak refused to properly fund a school rebuilding programme.

Council utterly condemns this and calls on the Government to urgently fund vital school repair projects in Leeds.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Stephenson, seconded by Councillor Lamb

Delete all and replace with the following:

“This Council welcomes significant investment in Leeds schools, academies, free schools and colleges in recent years.

“This includes a share of the £1.8 billion in funding from the School Rebuilding Programme for Holy Trinity Church of England Academy (Rothwell), Mount St. Mary's Catholic High School, John Jamieson School, St. Mary's Menston, Oulton Academy, Brigshaw High School and Wetherby High School.

“Council further welcomes a share of the £8.5 billion funding from the Free Schools Programme for Co-op Academy Brierley, Leeds Mathematics School, Terry Elliot Academy, Thorpe Park College, Leeds Jewish Free School, Cockburn Laurence Calvert Academy, University Technical College Leeds, the Ruth Gorse Academy, Trinity Academy Leeds, Temple Learning Academy Free School, Dixon's Trinity Chapeltown, Primley Wood Primary School, Nightingale Primary School, Lane End Primary, Elements Primary School, Elliot Hudson College, Lighthouse School Leeds, The Elland Academy, and The Stephen Longfellow Academy.

“Council also notes significant funding awarded to Leeds schools via Basic Need Grant Funding and directly to Leeds academies through the Condition Improvement Fund, which has delivered building extensions, repairs and improvements including decarbonisation.

“Council recognises that many schools and academies in Leeds are still grappling with budget pressures arising directly from the last Labour government's decision to award costly Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contracts for school building programmes. As a direct result of these contracts and the excessive cost of varying deeds, funding intended for the education of children and young people in Leeds is

instead diverted to private equity firms. Council therefore calls on the Conservative government to continue funding school repairs, rebuilds and improvements through the programmes listed in this motion and rejects any proposal to return to Labour's regressive PFI programme."

The amendment in the name of Councillor Stephenson was declared lost and upon being put to the vote it was

**RESOLVED** – That it has been reported that when he was Chancellor, Rishi Sunak refused to properly fund a school rebuilding programme.

Council utterly condemns this and calls on the Government to urgently fund vital school repair projects in Leeds.

On the requisition of Councillor Pryor and Lewis the voting on the motion in the name of Councillor Pryor was recorded as follows;

YES – 68

Akhtar, Ali, Almass, Arif, Bithell, Bowden, Bromley, Brooks, Burke, Carlill, Coupar, Dowson, Dye, Edwards, Farley, Flint, France-Mir, Garvani, Gibson, Grahame, Gruen, Hamilton, Hannan, Harland, Hayden, Heselwood, Hinchcliffe, A Hussain, Z Hussain, Iqbal, Jenkins, Jones, Khan, Lennox, Lewis, Maloney, Manaka, Marshall-Katung, Martin, McCluskey, McKenna, Millar, Parnham, Pryor, Rafique, Renshaw, Ritchie, Rontree, Scopes, Sowards, Shahzad, Sharpe, Taylor, Thomson, Tudor, Venner, Wilson, Wray, Dixon, Pogson-Golden, Campbell, Blackburn, Carlisle, Chapman, Downes, Golton, Hart-Brooke and Lay

NO – 17

Alderson, B Anderson, C Anderson, L Buckley, N Buckley, Amanda Carter, Cohen, Firth, Flynn, Foster, Harrington, Lamb, Robinson, D Seary, S Seary, Smith and Stephenson.

ABSTAIN – 5

Finnigan, Gettings, Kidger, Newton and Senior,

Council rose at 7.20 pm