

Proceedings of the Meeting of the Leeds City Council held
Civic Hall, Leeds on Wednesday, 17th January, 2024

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

Stephen Holrord-Case
Karen Renshaw
Mike Foster

ARMLEY

Andy Parnham
Alice Smart
James McKenna

BEESTON & HOLBECK

Andrew Scopes
Annie Maloney
Gohar Almass

BRAMLEY & STANNINGLEY

Tom Hinchcliffe
Kevin Ritchie
Caroline Gruen

BURMANTOFTS & RICHMOND HILL

Nkele Manaka
Luke Farley
Asghar Khan

WARD

CALVERLEY & FARSLEY

Peter Carlill

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

Suzanne McCormack
Mark Dobson
Sarah Field

GIPTON & HAREHILLS

Asghar Ali
Salma Arif

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

MORLEY SOUTH

Wyn Kidger
Oliver Newton
Jane Senior

OTLEY & YEADON

Ryk Downes
Colin Campbell

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

Penny Stables
Norma Harrington
Alan James Lamb

63 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 15th November 2023 be approved.

64 Announcements

(a) The Lord Mayor welcomed members to this meeting of Full Council and also any members of the public who were joining the meeting and reminded those present that the meeting was to be streamed live.

(b) The Lord Mayor congratulated Councillor Abigail Marshall-Katung on her nomination as Lord Mayor Elect for the 2024-25 Municipal Year.

(c) The Lord Mayor congratulated all those recipients from Leeds or who work and volunteer in Leeds and who had been recognised in His Majesty The King's 2024 New Year Honours List. The Lord Mayor informed Council that she had written to them all to offer her warmest congratulations on this well deserved award.

(d) The Lord Mayor informed Council that she had agreed for the inclusion of 2 late items at the meeting which were not available when the agenda was despatched; minutes of the Executive Board meeting held on the 15th January 2024 and a report setting out recommendations of Executive Board on the Adoption of remitted parts of Leeds Site Allocations Plan 2024.

(e) The Lord Mayor informed Council that she would adjourn the meeting at approximately 3.30pm.

65 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interests made at this point in the meeting, during the course of the meeting Councillor Dobson and Councillor Chapman declared an interest see minute 77 for further details.

66 Communications

The Chief Executive informed Council that a response had been received from HM Treasury to the White Paper resolution in November on the Transport Levy a copy of which had previously been circulated to all Members of Council.

67 Deputations

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

- 1) Love Leeds Parks
- 2) BusFair Campaign and the Health & Wellbeing Board's Allyship Programme
- 3) SEN parents Leeds.
- 4) Care Leavers

RESOLVED – That the subject matter in respect of deputation 1 be referred to the Director of Communities, Housing & Environment for consideration in consultation with the relevant Executive Member, that the subject matter in respect of deputation 2 be referred to the Director of City Development and the Director of Adults & Health for consideration in consultation with the relevant Executive Member(s), that the subject matter in respect of deputation 3 and deputation 4 be referred to the Director

of Children & Families for consideration in consultation with the relevant Executive Member.

68 Late Item Adoption of remitted parts of Leeds Site Allocations Plan 2024

The report of the Director of City Development presenting to Council recommendations of the Executive Board informing Members of the conclusions made by the Independent Planning Inspector in respect of the remitted parts of the Site Allocations Plan (SAPR) was moved by Councillor Hayden and seconded by Councillor Gruen and it was

RESOLVED –

- a) To note the Inspector's Report on the Remitted Parts of the Site Allocations Plan and accept the recommended Main Modifications. These were as detailed in an appendix to her Report (2 January 2024) at Appendix 1 to the report;
- b) To adopt the remitted parts of the Site Allocations Plan, which are contained in the Inspector's schedule of recommended Main Modifications (Appendix 1 to the report) with effect from 17 January 2024, pursuant to Section 23 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended);
- c) To note that the fully adopted SAP (as amended 2024) will be that provided as a Background Document to this report; and
- d) To note that Appendix 2 of the report will replace Appendix 3 of the Site Allocations Plan which lists the saved UDP policies that will be superseded by the SAP (as amended 2024).

69 Report on the Calculation of the Council Tax and Business Rates Tax Bases for 2024/25

The report of the Chief Officer - Financial Services a) seeking Council approval to the proposal that a Long-Term Empty Premium of 100% be levied on dwellings that have remained empty and unfurnished for more than one year rather than the current two years, b) seeking approval to the 2024/25 council tax bases for Leeds and the parish/town councils set out in the report and c) providing indicative business rates shares for 2024/25 and to request Council to give delegated authority to the Chief Officer – Financial Services to finalise the shares and to submit them in the National Non-Domestic Rates 1 Return 2024/25 on or before 31st January 2024 was moved by Councillor Coupar, seconded by Councillor Flint and

RESOLVED –

- a) To agree that the authority shall make a determination such that the Long-Term Empty Premium of 100% shall be applied to dwellings that have been empty and substantially unfurnished for a period of more than one year, rather than the current period of two years, in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992, Section 11B (as amended).
- b) To agree that, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by the Council as its council tax base for the year 2024/25 shall be **242,591.4** for Leeds, as detailed in **Appendix 2** of the report, and for each parish as detailed in **Appendix 2**.

- c)
- To note the indicative business rates shares set out in **Appendix 1** of the report, and delegate authority to the Chief Officer – Financial Services to make detailed calculations and to submit the final figures to the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities on or before 31st January 2024.

70 Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel

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

RESOLVED – That the report of the City Solicitor presenting to Council the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel be received and the recommendations set out agreed, namely;

- That Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances be uplifted by 3.88% and backdated to 1st April 2023.
- That in respect of the Dependent Carers Allowance the actual care costs incurred be the basis for payments of Dependent Carers Allowance - with the maximum hourly amount that can be claimed set at the hourly rate for the Real Living Wage and that the criteria for accessing the allowance, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the Independent Remuneration Panel report, be incorporated into the Members' Allowances Scheme.
- That all other Allowances, contained in Schedule two of the Members' Allowances Scheme (Travel Allowance and Subsistence Allowance) be uplifted as per the NJC pay award and where applicable backdated to 1st April 2023.
- That in respect of indexation ;
 - Basic, Special Responsibility and Other Allowances be uplifted on the 1st of April each year by a percentage equivalent to the pay award of SCP 43 on the NJC pay structure.
 - The maximum hourly rate payable under the Dependent Carers Allowance be determined by the prevailing hourly rate for the Real Living Wage.
 - That these indexations apply from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2028.

71 Report on Appointments

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

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

- That Councillor France-Mir replace Councillor Martin on West Yorkshire Pensions Board.
- That Councillor Amanda Carter replace Councillor Dawn Seary on Scrutiny Board (Children and Families).

72 Report on the Annual Report of the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee
It was moved by Councillor Dye, seconded by Councillor Rafique and

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report and the work of the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee throughout the 2022/23 and 2023/24 (to date) municipal year be noted.

At the conclusion of this item Council adjourned from 15.20 to 15.30.

73 Executive Questions

Q1 Councillor Lamb to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education):-

Would the Executive Member for Economy, Culture and Education provide details of the costs for the external support in relation to the EHCP review?

The Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education) replied.

Q2 Councillor Hart-Brooke to the Executive Member (Resources):-

Following on from my question at the previous Full Council meeting, could the Executive Member for Resources confirm that she has made enquiries as to how the Council could practically dispose of the U1 number plate in the Council's possession so that it could help address the Council's dire financial position.

The Executive Member (Resources) replied.

Q3 Councillor Wray to the Executive Member (Resources):-

Does the Executive Member have any comment on the recent Local Government Finance Settlement?

The Executive Member (Resources) replied.

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

What measures do the administration propose putting in place to stop unauthorised hunting with guns in our community parks?

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

Q5 Councillor Martin to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education):-

Could the Executive Member please comment on footfall within Leeds City Centre, particularly during the time of the Christmas market?

The Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education) replied.

Q6 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space):-

Would the Executive Member responsible confirm what potential reductions in value of the contract for ice cream/refreshment concessions at Golden Acre will be, as per the recent Delegated Decision as a result of the potential introduction of car parking charges?

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

Q7 Councillor Campbell to the Executive Member (Resources):-

Further to my question at Council on 15.11.23. could the Executive Member for Resources inform Council what progress has been made to recover the Council's outstanding costs in regard to the Civic Centre in Otley?

The Executive Member (Resources) replied.

Q8 Councillor Ritchie to the Executive Member (Communities):-

Could the Executive Member please comment on the government's decision not to appoint a Minister of State for Disabled People?

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:-

Q9 Councillor Pogson-Golden to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education):-

Q10 Councillor Scopes to the Executive Member for Children's Social Care & Health Partnerships replied.

Q11 Councillor L Buckley to the Executive Member (Housing).

Q12 Councillor Chapman to the Executive Member (Resources).

Q13 Councillor Tudor to the Executive Member (Housing).

Q14 Councillor Pogson-Golden to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education).

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

Q16 Councillor Harrington to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure).

Q17 Councillor Chapman to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education).

Q18 Councillor Jenkins to the Executive Member (Adult Social Care, Public Health and Active Lifestyles).

Q19 Councillor Pogson-Golden to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education).

- Q20 Councillor Maloney to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure).
- Q21 Councillor Flynn to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).
- Q22 Councillor Downes to the Executive Member (Adult Social Care, Public Health and Active Lifestyles).
- Q23 Councillor Pogson-Golden to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education).
- Q24 Councillor S Seary to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure).
- Q25 Councillor Chapman to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education).
- Q26 Councillor Pogson-Golden to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education).
- Q27 Councillor Robinson to the Executive Member (Resources).
- Q28 Councillor Chapman to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure).
- Q29 Councillor Finnigan to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure).
- Q30 Councillor Harrington to the Executive Member (Housing).
- Q31 Councillor Chapman to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).
- Q32 Councillor Stables to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).
- Q33 Councillor Cohen to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).
- Q34 Councillor Chapman to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education).
- Q35 Councillor Carlisle to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure).
- Q36 Councillor Lamb to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure).
- Q37 Councillor Chapman to the Executive Member (Resources).
- Q38 Councillor Dixon to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).
- Q39 Councillor Firth to the Executive Member (Resources).

- Q40 Councillor Chapman to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education).
- Q41 Councillor Dixon to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).
- Q42 Councillor D Seary to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education).
- Q43 Councillor Chapman to the Executive Member (Economy, Culture and Education).
- Q44 Councillor Dixon to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).
- Q45 Councillor S Seary to the Executive Member (Communities).
- Q46 Councillor Chapman to the Executive Member (Resources).
- Q47 Councillor Robinson to the Executive Member (Communities).
- Q48 Councillor Campbell to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure).
- Q49 Councillor Stephenson to the Leader of Council.
- Q50 Councillor Downes to the Executive Member (Adult Social Care, Public Health and Active Lifestyles).
- Q51 Councillor Robinson to the Executive Member (Resources).
- Q52 Councillor Chapman to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).
- Q53 Councillor Flynn to the Leader of Council.
- Q54 Councillor Chapman to the Executive Member (Housing).
- Q55 Councillor L Buckley to the Executive Member (Communities).
- Q56 Councillor Chapman to the Executive Member (Resources).
- Q57 Councillor Harrington to the Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure).
- Q58 Councillor Firth to the Executive Member (Communities).
- Q59 Councillor Firth to the Executive Member (Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space).

74 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 17.05 to 17.35

75 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Buckley) - Transport

Prior to moving the motion Councillor N Buckley sought leave of Council under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 14.9(a) to alter the wording of the motion in his name by the inclusion of the wording of the amendment in the name of Cllr Dixon , the inclusion of the wording of the amendment in the name of Cllr Golton and the inclusion of the final 3 paragraphs of the amendment in the name of Cllr Stables.

Leave of Council was not granted.

It was moved by Councillor Buckley, seconded by Councillor Lamb that this Council is concerned by the current approach to transport policy in our district centres and the city centre. Instead of making it easier for people to get where they want to go, this administration seems intent on pursuing a “Disconnecting Leeds” strategy which is increasingly ineffective, anti-motorist, and damaging to the local economy.

Proposals to introduce parking charges in Guiseley and Rawdon, Wetherby, and Adel and Wharfedale wards would harm outer areas, discouraging people from visiting our district centres and local attractions. Council is concerned that similar proposals to introduce charges may follow in other district centre cars parks in Calverley and Farsley, Ardsley and Robin Hood, and Pudsey. This short-sighted policy comes at a time when the local buses serving outer areas are more unreliable than ever, with timetable changes and cuts to routes that have made travelling to and from these areas of Leeds much more difficult.

Meanwhile our City Centre is frequently in a state of gridlock, particularly around the railway station, with visitors to Leeds often left confused and frustrated by new road layouts and disruption.

This Council calls for a rethink of the city’s approach to transport policy and strategy, and asks that a report is brought to Executive Board setting out options that will achieve the following:

- Improved connectivity to, from, and within our town and district centres;
- Cancellation of any and all plans to introduce new charging in town and district centre car parks, parks and attractions;
- A pause to any future planned transport schemes in the city centre while a review into their effectiveness is conducted, drawing on lessons learned from disruption caused by recent schemes;
- Making the city centre more accessible by car for shoppers, theatre, restaurant and bar goers, so that all can enjoy our amazing city centre.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Dixon, seconded by Councillor Pogson-Golden

Append “The approach appears challenging to disabled drivers, especially those with physical disabilities and mobility issues” to the end of the first paragraph.

In the second paragraph, replace the words “serving outer areas” with “serving most areas”.

In the third paragraph, replace the words “our City Centre is frequently” with “our City Centre and surrounding areas are frequently”.

Insert the following between bullet points three and four at the end of the white paper:
- “A review to ensure, the quantity and the availability of disabled parking in the city centre to cater for all Leeds residents possessing a blue badge.”

The amended White Paper would then read:

“This Council is concerned by the current approach to transport policy in our district centres and the city centre. Instead of making it easier for people to get where they want to go, this administration seems intent on pursuing a “Disconnecting Leeds” strategy which is increasingly ineffective, anti-motorist, and damaging to the local economy. The approach appears challenging to disabled drivers, especially those with physical disabilities and mobility issues.

Proposals to introduce parking charges in Guiseley and Rawdon, Wetherby, and Adel and Wharfedale wards would harm outer areas, discouraging people from visiting our district centres and local attractions. Council is concerned that similar proposals to introduce charges may follow in other district centre cars parks in Calverley and Farsley, Ardsley and Robin Hood, and Pudsey. This short-sighted policy comes at a time when the local buses serving most areas are more unreliable than ever, with timetable changes and cuts to routes that have made travelling to and from these areas of Leeds much more difficult.

Meanwhile our City Centre and surrounding areas are frequently in a state of gridlock, particularly around the railway station, with visitors to Leeds often left confused and frustrated by new road layouts and disruption.

This Council calls for a rethink of the city’s approach to transport policy and strategy, and asks that a report is brought to Executive Board setting out options that will achieve the following:

- Improved connectivity to, from, and within our town and district centres;
- Cancellation of any and all plans to introduce new charging in town and district centre car parks, parks and attractions;
- A pause to any future planned transport schemes in the city centre while a review into their effectiveness is conducted, drawing on lessons learned from disruption caused by recent schemes;
- A review to ensure, the quantity and the availability of disabled parking in the city centre to cater for all Leeds residents possessing a blue badge.
- Making the city centre more accessible by car for shoppers, theatre, restaurant and bar goers, so that all can enjoy our amazing city centre.”

A second amendment was moved by Councillor Stables, seconded by Councillor Blackburn

Delete all after “This Council” and replace with:

“is concerned by the current approach to transport policy in the outer areas of the city. The Leeds Transport Policy offers an integrated connected approach within the Ring Road, however for those towns and villages outside this area transport has become disconnected. This makes it increasingly difficult to rely on Public Transport and encourages those with cars to use them instead. This is against Council’s own Climate Emergency Policies that look to reduce carbon emissions.

In addition, the proposed car parking charges in several outer areas, including Wetherby, will be extremely detrimental to those areas. In the case of Wetherby, with no train and a very limited bus network connecting villages to the town centre, the introduction of parking charges will have the disastrous double impact of deterring workers on low incomes and volunteers in the charity shops, as well as deterring visitors to the town. This double effect will have a negative impact on the whole economy of Wetherby creating a downward spiral - Reducing the number of retail outlets to attract visitors, thereby reducing the number of tourists and further impacting the economy. In addition it will have a negative social impact, disproportionately affecting the poorest in the community as those on the lowest wages will not be able to afford £12 less every week in their pockets.

On top of that, if charges are introduced to the two car parks providing all day parking in Wetherby it will likely encourage illegal and inappropriate parking across the town. Visitors may circle the central car parks waiting for a space, or alternatively park on yellow lines or in housing estates. This would result in clogging up the roads, increasing air pollution, making it more dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists, and limiting access for emergency services.

This Council calls for a rethink of the City's approach to both transport policy and parking charges in the outer areas of Leeds, especially Wetherby.

A third amendment was moved by Councillor Golton seconded by Councillor Campbell

Delete 'anti motorist,' from the first paragraph, and replace 'local' with 'wider Leeds'.

Replace the section of the 2nd paragraph from "Proposals..." to "...Pudsey." with "The existence of car parking charges in Otley, and the introduction of such charges in other town and district centres are a deterrent for people wishing to visit local health centres, hospitality venues, shops and facilities local to them, and have a 'chilling effect' on local economies."

Delete the words 'by car' in the final bullet point and inserting after '...bar goes,' the phrase 'by insisting that bus companies do not reduce service frequency after 6pm on their routes'.

Add a further bullet point:

- o The development of a Transport Plan for every ward in the city to maximise local mobility.

The amended White Paper would then read:

This Council is concerned by the current approach to transport policy in our district centres and the city centre. Instead of making it easier for people to get where they want to go, this administration seems intent on pursuing a "Disconnecting Leeds" strategy which is increasingly ineffective and damaging to the wider Leeds economy.

The existence of car parking charges in Otley, and the introduction of such charges in other town and district centres are a deterrent for people wishing to visit local health centres, hospitality venues, shops and facilities local to them, and have a 'chilling effect' on local economies. This short-sighted policy comes at a time when the local buses serving outer areas are more unreliable than ever, with timetable changes and cuts to routes that have made travelling to and from these areas of Leeds much more difficult.

Meanwhile our City Centre is frequently in a state of gridlock, particularly around the railway station, with visitors to Leeds often left confused and frustrated by new road layouts and disruption.

This Council calls for a rethink of the city's approach to transport policy and strategy, and asks that a report is brought to Executive Board setting out options that will achieve the following:

- Improved connectivity to, from, and within our town and district centres;
- Cancellation of any and all plans to introduce new charging in town and district centre car parks, parks and attractions;
- A pause to any future planned transport schemes in the city centre while a review into their effectiveness is conducted, drawing on lessons learned from disruption caused by recent schemes;
- Making the city centre more accessible for shoppers, theatre, restaurant and bar goers by insisting that bus companies do not reduce service frequency after 6pm on their routes so that all can enjoy our amazing city centre.
- The development of a Transport Plan for every ward in the city to maximise local mobility.

A fourth amendment was moved by Councillor Hayden, seconded by Councillor Carlill

Delete all after "This Council" and replace with:

".....welcomes the comprehensive local transport infrastructure investment delivered by this administration in recent years, including new rail stations, bus infrastructure improvements, cycling routes and road improvements, helping to better connect this city's communities to each other. Council notes this has resulted in more people choosing to travel by bus, rail, cycling and walking, as well as quicker journeys for vehicles using A roads in Leeds than in other core cities.

Council notes these achievements have been delivered against a backdrop of a shambolic approach to long term transport planning by the Conservative Government, who have broken countless promises to invest in and improve transport infrastructure in the North.

Council notes the district parking proposals are a direct result of the huge financial pressures facing the council due to the Conservative Government failing to properly fund local councils. Council notes all areas affected by the parking charges proposal would continue to offer free parking at other sites both on and off street within the local area.

Council further notes Leeds is a busy and bustling city, recovering well from the COVID19 pandemic, and welcomes the comprehensive work done to enhance the street environment in Leeds, helping to make our city centre a premier destination to visit, with city centre footfall last month up 13.6% compared to the previous year. Over the last ten years, the city has attracted £4 billion private investment for large scale development projects in the city, with an even larger active future pipeline of over £7 billion. Council notes this is despite the hugely damaging mismanagement of the national economy in recent years by the Conservative Government.

Council also notes that over 10,500 off street parking spaces are available to the public in council and private car parks in the city centre, in addition to over 3600 Park and Ride spaces.

Council notes the rise in rail usage in Leeds, with many days now higher than pre COVID levels, but regrets the current bus system allows private operators to reduce or remove services placing the travelling public at the mercy of companies focused more on generating profits than generating a comprehensive, connected network. Council reiterates its support for a franchise model to allow better accountability and involvement in setting the bus routes the public wants.

Council notes Executive Board received an update report on the Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy Action Plan as recently as November, and Council supports the recommendations agreed by Executive Board for a further report to the Board this year. Council welcomes input into the strategy by Scrutiny Board Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth, most recently at its meeting in July 2023, as well as engagement with Community Committees.

Council notes the significant funding gap that prevents the delivery of the ambitions outlined in the Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy and therefore calls on national Government for the support, powers and funding to enable full delivery of the strategy.”

The amendments in the name of Councillor Dixon, Councillor Stables and Councillor Golton were declared lost the amendment in the name of Councillor Hayden was carried and upon being put to the vote it was

RESOLVED – That this Council welcomes the comprehensive local transport infrastructure investment delivered by this administration in recent years, including new rail stations, bus infrastructure improvements, cycling routes and road improvements, helping to better connect this city’s communities to each other. Council notes this has resulted in more people choosing to travel by bus, rail, cycling and walking, as well as quicker journeys for vehicles using A roads in Leeds than in other core cities.

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Council notes the significant funding gap that prevents the delivery of the ambitions outlined in the Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy and therefore calls on national Government for the support, powers and funding to enable full delivery of the strategy.”

On the requisition of Councillor Stephenson and Councillor Cohen the voting on the amendment in the name of Councillor Dixon was recorded as follows;

YES – 35

Alderson, B Anderson, C Anderson, L Buckley, N Buckley, Amanda Carter, Cohen, Firth, Flynn, Foster, Harrington, Lamb, Robinson, D Seary, S Seary, Smith, Stephenson, Campbell, Chapman, Downes, Golton, Hart-Brooke, Finnigan, Gettings, Kidger, Newton, Senior, Dobson, Field, McCormack, Dixon, Pogson-Golden, Blackburn, Carlisle and Stables

NO – 57

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, Holroyd-Case, Z Hussain, Iqbal, Jenkins, Jones, Khan, Lennox, Lewis, Maloney, Manaka, Marshall-Katung, Martin, McCluskey, McKenna, Millar, Parnham, Pryor, Rafique, Renshaw, Ritchie, Rontree, Scopes, Shahzad, Sharpe, Taylor, Thomson, Tudor, Venner, Wilson and Wray.

ABSTAIN – 0

On the requisition of Councillor Stables and Councillor Blackburn the voting on the amendment in the name of Councillor Stables was recorded as follows;

YES – 18

Campbell, Chapman, Downes, Golton, Hart-Brooke, Finnigan, Gettings, Kidger, Newton, Senior, Dobson, Field, McCormack, Dixon, Pogson-Golden, Blackburn, Carlisle and Stables

NO – 57

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, Holroyd-Case, Z Hussain, Iqbal, Jenkins, Jones, Khan, Lennox, Lewis, Maloney, Manaka, Marshall-

Katung, Martin, McCluskey, McKenna, Millar, Parnham, Pryor, Rafique, Renshaw, Ritchie, Rontree, Scopes, Shahzad, Sharpe, Taylor, Thomson, Tudor, Venner, Wilson and Wray.

ABSTAIN – 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

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

YES – 35

Alderson, B Anderson, C Anderson, L Buckley, N Buckley, Amanda Carter, Cohen, Firth, Flynn, Foster, Harrington, Lamb, Robinson, D Seary, S Seary, Smith, Stephenson, Campbell, Chapman, Downes, Golton, Hart-Brooke, Finnigan, Gettings, Kidger, Newton, Senior, Dobson, Field, McCormack, Dixon, Pogson-Golden, Blackburn, Carlisle and Stables

NO – 57

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, Holroyd-Case, Z Hussain, Iqbal, Jenkins, Jones, Khan, Lennox, Lewis, Maloney, Manaka, Marshall-Katung, Martin, McCluskey, McKenna, Millar, Parnham, Pryor, Rafique, Renshaw, Ritchie, Rontree, Scopes, Shahzad, Sharpe, Taylor, Thomson, Tudor, Venner, Wilson and Wray.

ABSTAIN – 0

On the requisition of Councillor Flint and Councillor Coupar the voting on the amendment in the name of Councillor Hayden was recorded as follows;

YES – 57

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, Holroyd-Case, Z Hussain, Iqbal, Jenkins, Jones, Khan, Lennox, Lewis, Maloney, Manaka, Marshall-Katung, Martin, McCluskey, McKenna, Millar, Parnham, Pryor, Rafique, Renshaw, Ritchie, Rontree, Scopes, Shahzad, Sharpe, Taylor, Thomson, Tudor, Venner, Wilson and Wray.

NO – 25

Alderson, B Anderson, C Anderson, L Buckley, N Buckley, Amanda Carter, Cohen, Firth, Flynn, Foster, Harrington, Lamb, Robinson, D Seary, S Seary, Smith, Stephenson, Campbell, Chapman, Downes, Golton, Hart-Brooke, Dobson, Field and McCormack

ABSTAIN – 10

Finnigan, Gettings, Kidger, Newton, Senior, Dixon, Pogson-Golden, Blackburn, Carlisle and Stables

76 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Dixon) - Sports Clubs

It was moved by Councillor Dixon, seconded by Councillor Dobson that this council agrees that, subject to legal considerations, community sports clubs in Leeds shall be granted the right to lease their sports grounds owned by the local authority on a long-term lease at a peppercorn rent – giving clubs long term security of tenure necessary to grow.

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

Delete all after “This council” and replace with:

“.....recognises the importance of green spaces for our communities and the role they play in the health and wellbeing of our residents, and further recognises the huge contribution by volunteers who put so much time into running sport activities for people across Leeds.

This council thanks those volunteers and supports the continued use of green spaces by community groups and is proud of the great array of activities which take place within these spaces across the city.

Council welcomes the £43m potential external capital funding secured by this Administration for investment in sport development in communities across Leeds.

This council reiterates its commitment to ensuring public access to green spaces can continue whilst also supporting community groups and sports teams who use the facilities through difficult financial times.”

A second amendment was moved by Councillor Cohen, seconded by Councillor Amanda Carter

Insert the words “full repairing and insuring” between “long-term” and “lease”.

Motion would read:

“This council agrees that, subject to legal considerations, community sports clubs in Leeds shall be granted the right to lease their sports grounds owned by the local authority on a long-term full repairing and insuring lease at a peppercorn rent – giving clubs long term security of tenure necessary to grow.”

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

RESOLVED – That this council recognises the importance of green spaces for our communities and the role they play in the health and wellbeing of our residents, and further recognises the huge contribution by volunteers who put so much time into running sport activities for people across Leeds.

This council thanks those volunteers and supports the continued use of green spaces by community groups and is proud of the great array of activities which take place within these spaces across the city.

Council welcomes the £43m potential external capital funding secured by this Administration for investment in sport development in communities across Leeds.

This council reiterates its commitment to ensuring public access to green spaces can continue whilst also supporting community groups and sports teams who use the facilities through difficult financial times.”

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

YES – 35

Alderson, B Anderson, C Anderson, L Buckley, N Buckley, Amanda Carter, Cohen, Firth, Flynn, Foster, Harrington, Lamb, Robinson, D Seary, S Seary, Smith, Stephenson, Campbell, Chapman, Downes, Golton, Hart-Brooke, Finnigan, Gettings, Kidger, Newton, Senior, Dobson, Field, McCormack, Dixon, Pogson-Golden, Blackburn, Carlisle and Stables

NO – 57

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, Holroyd-Case, Z Hussain, Iqbal, Jenkins, Jones, Khan, Lennox, Lewis, Maloney, Manaka, Marshall-Katung, Martin, McCluskey, McKenna, Millar, Parnham, Pryor, Rafique, Renshaw, Ritchie, Rontree, Scopes, Shahzad, Sharpe, Taylor, Thomson, Tudor, Venner, Wilson and Wray.

ABSTAIN – 0

On the requisition of Councillor Flint and Councillor Coupar the voting on the substantive motion in the name of Councillor Rafique was recorded as follows;

YES – 62

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, Holroyd-Case, Z Hussain, Iqbal, Jenkins, Jones, Khan, Lennox, Lewis, Maloney, Manaka, Marshall-Katung, Martin, McCluskey, McKenna, Millar, Parnham, Pryor, Rafique, Renshaw, Ritchie, Rontree, Scopes, Shahzad, Sharpe, Taylor, Thomson, Tudor, Venner, Wilson, Wray, Dixon, Pogson-Golden, Blackburn, Carlisle and Stables

NO – 30

Alderson, B Anderson, C Anderson, L Buckley, N Buckley, Amanda Carter, Cohen, Firth, Flynn, Foster, Harrington, Lamb, Robinson, D Seary, S Seary, Smith, Stephenson, Campbell, Chapman, Downes, Golton, Hart-Brooke, Finnigan, Gettings, Kidger, Newton, Senior, Dobson, Field and McCormack,

ABSTAIN – 0

77 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Harland) - Household Support Fund

It was moved by Councillor Harland, seconded by Councillor Coupar that this Council calls on the Government to extend the Household Support Fund (HSF) before it runs out in March 2024.

Council notes the fund provides a lifeline to tens of thousands of households in Leeds struggling to afford energy, food, clothing and other essentials. Council is

concerned that across Leeds families are living under the threat of losing this vital lifeline, especially given one in five children in Leeds are living in poverty.

Council further notes many charities and third sector organisations in Leeds depend on HSF to deliver emergency cost of living support to families who are at risk of financial hardship.

Council is deeply concerned that the Government did not use its Autumn Statement or draft Local Government Finance Settlement to confirm an extension of the fund, and therefore calls for the Government to provide urgent clarity and reassurance to these families, and extend the Household Support Fund beyond its current end date of March 2024.

An amendment was moved by Councillor B Anderson, seconded by Councillor Firth

Delete all after “This Council” and replace with:

“welcomes the £2.5 billion funding provided by the government since 2021 for the Household Support Fund, which has helped vulnerable households in Leeds and across the country with the cost of living.

“The HSF comes in the context of a wider programme of government support announced in the Autumn Statement, with £104 billion spent on cost of living support between 2022 and 2025 – worth around £3,700 per household. Measures include: uprating benefits by 6.7%; increasing the state pension by 8.5%; increasing the Local Housing Allowance by £7 billion over 5 years, benefiting 1.6 million households by around £800 a year.

“Council notes that the pandemic and the war in Ukraine were the principal causes of inflation in all economies.

“Council notes that as a result of this government’s efforts to help the most vulnerable, there are 1.7 million fewer households in poverty than in 2010.

“Council calls on the government to continue to provide support to vulnerable households and focus on the long-term decisions required to strengthen our economy.”

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

RESOLVED – That this Council calls on the Government to extend the Household Support Fund (HSF) before it runs out in March 2024.

Council notes the fund provides a lifeline to tens of thousands of households in Leeds struggling to afford energy, food, clothing and other essentials. Council is concerned that across Leeds families are living under the threat of losing this vital lifeline, especially given one in five children in Leeds are living in poverty.

Council further notes many charities and third sector organisations in Leeds depend on HSF to deliver emergency cost of living support to families who are at risk of financial hardship.

Council is deeply concerned that the Government did not use its Autumn Statement or draft Local Government Finance Settlement to confirm an extension of the fund, and therefore calls for the Government to provide urgent clarity and reassurance to

these families, and extend the Household Support Fund beyond its current end date of March 2024.

Prior to discussion on this item Councillor Dobson declared an interest as a manager of an organisation that allocates Household Support Funds to other organisations and would abstain from voting on the matter and prior to her contribution in the debate Councillor Chapman declared an interest as she had previously set up a food bank which was supported by an organisation funded by the Household Support Fund.

On the requisition of Councillor Flint and Councillor Farley the voting on the Motion in the name of Councillor Harland was recorded as follows;

YES – 73

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, Holroyd-Case, Z Hussain, Iqbal, Jenkins, Jones, Khan, Lennox, Lewis, Maloney, Manaka, Marshall-Katung, Martin, McCluskey, McKenna, Millar, Parnham, Pryor, Rafique, Renshaw, Ritchie, Rontree, Scopes, Shahzad, Sharpe, Taylor, Thomson, Tudor, Venner, Wilson, Wray, Campbell, Chapman, Downes, Golton, Hart-Brooke, Finnigan, Kidger, Newton, Senior, Field, McCormack, Dixon, Pogson-Golden, Blackburn, Carlisle and Stables

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 – 1

Dobson

78 Procedural Motion

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

RESOLVED - That under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule (CPR) 22.1 (Suspension of CPRs), that Council Procedure Rule (CPR) 22.1 (Suspension of CPRs), CPR 3 (time Limits for Business) , CPR 12.1,12.2 & 12.4(Notice/Motions on Notice) (White Paper Motions/Motion set out in agenda) and CPR 14.1 b,c & d (period permitted for speeches) be suspended to allow the introduction of a White Paper Motion on the Middle East in the name of Councillor Lewis and that there be a maximum of 2 contributors from each of the 2 largest groups and 1 each from other groups, speaking for a maximum of 3 minutes each.

79 Late Item - White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Lewis) - Middle East

It was moved by Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Lamb and

RESOLVED - That this Council recognises the impact the conflict in the Middle East is having on many citizens in Leeds, in particular our Muslim and Jewish communities, and therefore Council calls for urgent action to bring about a lasting ceasefire from all parties in the region.

In the face of horrific violence and thousands of civilian lives lost on and since October 7th 2023, this Council believes that the release of hostages, expanded humanitarian access and a total cessation of hostilities from all sides is the only way to begin working towards a lasting peace in the region, with the dignity and security that both Palestinians and Israelis deserve.

Council understands that there are great differences in how people view the conflict, the respective rights and wrongs, and the solutions to bring about peace in the area. However, despite those differences, we must ensure that people are able to go about their lives in our city freely, with confidence, and without fear of intimidation, harassment, or hatred.

Council is proud that in December a hugely successful conference was held on Antisemitism and Anti-Muslim Prejudice to address these issues, attended by many key representatives and community leaders working across the city. The solidarity and commitment to work together to support both Jewish and Muslim communities was clear and powerfully articulated and we intend to work towards a common objective to ensure that Leeds remains a safe and welcoming place for all.

Council rose at 8.25 pm