

DONCASTER METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

MONDAY, 5TH MARCH, 2018

A MEETING of the COUNCIL was held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER - CIVIC OFFICE on MONDAY, 5TH MARCH, 2018, at 2.00 pm.

PRESENT:

Chair - Councillor George Derx  
Vice-Chair - Councillor Majid Khan  
Mayor - Ros Jones  
Deputy Mayor - Glyn Jones

Councillors Nick Allen, Duncan Anderson, Lani-Mae Ball, Nigel Ball, Iris Beech, Joe Blackham, Rachael Blake, Nigel Cannings, Bev Chapman, Mick Cooper, Jane Cox, Steve Cox, Linda Curran, Susan Durant, Nuala Fennelly, Neil Gethin, Sean Gibbons, John Gilliver, Martin Greenhalgh, Pat Haith, Rachel Hodson, Charlie Hogarth, Mark Houlbrook, David Hughes, Eva Hughes, Richard A Jones, Kenneth Keegan, Jane Kidd, Nikki McDonald, Chris McGuinness, Sue McGuinness, John McHale, Bill Mordue, John Mounsey, David Nevett, Jane Nightingale, Andy Pickering, Cynthia Ransome, Andrea Robinson, Kevin Rodgers, Dave Shaw, Derek Smith, Frank Tyas, Austen White, Sue Wilkinson and Jonathan Wood.

APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Phil Cole, John Cooke, John Healy, Ian Pearson, Tina Reid and Paul Wray.

71 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, IF ANY

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

72 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 25TH JANUARY, 2018

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday, 25th January, 2018, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

73 TO RECEIVE ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR OF COUNCIL, THE MAYOR, MEMBERS OF THE CABINET OR THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE

The Chair of Council, Councillor George Derx, made the following announcement:-

“I would like to welcome the new Ward Member for Armthorpe, Councillor Frank Tyas, to his first Council meeting following the recent By-election on 15th February 2018.”

On behalf of the Chair of the Health and Well-Being Board, Councillor Rachael Blake, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Glyn Jones, made the following announcement:-

“Councils have been asked to sign up to the Motor Neurone Disease Charter. This was discussed at the Health and Well Being Board in 2015.

Motor neurone disease (MND) describes a group of diseases that affect the nerves (motor neurones) in the brain and spinal cord that tell your muscles what to do. With MND, messages from these nerves gradually stop reaching the muscles, leading them to weaken, stiffen and waste. It affects up to 5,000 adults in the UK at any one time.

The MND Charter is a statement of the respect, care and support that people living with MND and their carers, deserve and should expect.

The five points of the Charter are:-

1. The right to an early diagnosis and information;
2. The right to access quality care and treatments;
3. The right to be treated as individuals and with dignity and respect;
4. The right to maximise their quality of life; and
5. Carers of people with MND have the right to be valued, respected, listened to and well-supported.

Since then, the Council has addressed the 5 points of the Charter and now wishes to formally adopt the Charter. The Charter will be discussed at the Health and Wellbeing Board on 15th March, after which the Council will be signing up to the Charter.

I am aware that Councillors including Councillor Houlbrook, have been approached by their residents to encourage their Council to adopt this Charter and I am sure that Councillor Blake would welcome residents to attend the next Health and Wellbeing Board. Councillor Blake will keep you informed when the formal adoption by Doncaster Council has taken place.”

Councillor Chris McGuinness, Cabinet Member for Communities, Voluntary Sector and the Environment, made the following announcement:-

“Firstly, I would like to give my thanks to all the Council staff who have worked so hard to deal with the difficult weather conditions over the past week.

The harsh conditions have had a massive impact on the Council’s key services, with the safety of our employees and residents being the ultimate priority.

One of the most important services which has been impacted by the snow has been the Recycling and Waste service.

While Suez staff tried to continue to undertake collections, ultimately the conditions made operations unsafe and the service was suspended. This meant that no collections took place on Wednesday and Thursday, and only a limited amount took place on Friday on accessible roads.

As you are aware, the new waste collection contract is now underway, with the changeover to the new system of collections taking place this week.

As a consequence, any changes to this week’s collection schedule would result in a high level of confusion across the entire Borough, with the potential to negatively

impact the vast majority of residents. Therefore, the decision has been taken that this week's collection schedule must continue as planned.

This means that unfortunately, some residents whose collections were missed last week will not have their black bin collected for longer than usual. This is deeply regrettable and we apologise to those people affected.

However, we are working with Suez to minimise the impact this has had on our residents, and an agreement has been reached that refuse collectors will also collect extra waste if it is presented next to your black bin on your next collection day. Whilst this is not ideal, we hope that this helps to re-assure residents that any extra rubbish which accumulates will be disposed of.

I will make sure that Members are updated with the latest information as regularly as possible, and I will be happy to stay behind after the meeting has finished along with the relevant Officers, if any Member wishes to discuss this in more detail. There will also be a Members update issued later today including a list of Frequently Asked Questions.

Councillor Nigel Ball, Cabinet Member for Public Health, Leisure and Culture, made the following announcement:-

“Over the past week, we have seen extremely bad weather conditions which have been a real challenge for Doncaster and its public services. Our most vulnerable citizens, the homeless, have faced real dangers; literally being out in the cold with nowhere to seek shelter.

Doncaster Council, its Complex Lives Outreach Team working with the third Sector, St. Leger Homes and other partners, have ensured that Doncaster had enough refuge capacity to deal with the bitterly cold weather we have experienced over the last week.

Over the past week, 49 people were engaged by the Complex Lives Team and partners on the street or presented as homeless. 24 of these 49 people are known to the services associated with rough sleeping on a regular basis. 37 people accepted the offer of assistance and were accommodated or helped to reconnect with family and friends.

Our staff were working around the clock to ensure that any individual caught out in the snow and cold could access a warm and safe environment.

These teams have been a credit to Doncaster and have made sure that rough sleepers and homeless people in this Town, get the support they need in times of crisis.

I want to thank them for this work which I am sure you will agree has without a doubt, saved lives in this Town during a bitterly cold week when the real face of Tory ‘Austerity’ cuts could be visible for all to see.”

The Chief Executive, Jo Miller, made the following announcement:-

“Due to the inclement weather, I as Head of Paid Service, know that you will join me in paying tribute to our staff, not just those staff in Street Scene and the Complex Lives Team, but whatever it took in Doncaster last week, people were prepared for the

weather and they absolutely did their all and I cannot praise our staff and our partners highly enough.

People did whatever it took, whether that was changing their job roles or providing their 4x4 vehicles to get assistance out to help our most vulnerable. We had staff working over the weekend because we had a power outage and we couldn't be satisfied that our alarm systems were working properly at that point, so we called every single one of our vulnerable residents which involved a significant amount of work and volunteering by people.

In particular, I would like to ask you to join with me in paying tribute to two of our Highways Maintenance workers, Dave Hunt and Shaun Crabtree, who last Wednesday, were ploughing snowdrifts on the Tickhill Road between Tickhill and Wadworth. The way they do snow ploughing is that one does the ploughing and the other one spots. They were snow ploughing and they came across a man in the snow. If they hadn't spotted him he may have been hit by the snow plough and there would have been a fatality. The person was asleep in the snow and was not dressed for inclement weather, so they raised the alarm and that gentleman was appropriately escorted home. Had they not undertaken the action that they did, there would have been a fatality. So they are heroes and life savers and I would like to record thanks to the whole staff of this Council, but in particular to Dave Hunt and Shaun Crabtree."

The Chair of Council, Councillor George Derx, also paid tribute to Dave Hunt and Shaun Crabtree for saving the individual's life.

74 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 13

(A) Question from Mr. D. Wright, on behalf of 'South Yorkshire Save Our NHS', to the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones.

"My question refers to Item 5 on the agenda of the Doncaster CCG Governing Board meeting 15th February 2018, which is the minutes of the January Board meeting, paragraph 7 on pages 17/18 of the agenda pack.

This is a report by Ernst Young, which said 'The cost of delivering health and social care services is increasing and our gap will be £139.5 million by 20/21 if we do nothing'. Page 18 says that the CCG's 'total expected saving of the £139.5 million was approximately £30 million' (by 2021).

We believe that it is not possible to have a functional 'joined up' health and social care service with these proposed unattainable financial restraints.

Can you tell me what the Council's share of these 'required savings' will be and will the Mayor now change her stance to actively opposing them?"

The Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones, gave the following reply:-

"Thank you for your question Mr. Wright.

As you know, the Council continues to face harsh government cuts to its budget.

Over the next three years, we need to meet a further budget gap of £44million. This includes the latest savings and pressures including growth, for more Council services that provide health and social care, which are set out in more detail on pages 21 to 23 of today's agenda.

Despite this, we have once again set out a balanced revenue budget for the coming year, which will be considered by Members today.

Anyone who has listened to me over the last five years will know that I have time and time again set out my opposition to the ongoing Conservative austerity cuts.

I have also repeatedly criticised the Government for its failure to properly deal with social care funding. Instead, they are pushing the burden on to local Council Tax Payers. It is a point that I will once again be making today.

Similarly, this Council has made clear our concerns about the underfunding of the NHS and the impact of not providing the NHS with the funding that it needs.

Furthermore, the Cabinet chose to note rather than support the Sustainability and Transformation Plan, because it did not make clear the impacts of the funding gap facing health services in South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw.

I cannot make any clearer my opposition to the current Government's approach to funding health and social care.

However, I will not let our opposition to Government austerity stop us from undertaking vital work to better integrate health and social care services for the benefit of local people. It is something that is clearly required, with support from health professionals and across the political party divide.

There is a very significant difference between opposing the Government's austerity measures and getting on with the job you have been elected to do to improve the lives of local people.

For the last five years, that is what I have done and it is what we will continue to do.

Once again, thank you for your question."

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13.10, Mr. Wright asked the Mayor, the following supplementary question:-

"Mayor fourteen months ago, I asked a similar question about Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STPs) and you were then concerned about the lack of information about budget pressures arising out of STPs. Your position is unchanged and you still have the same problems. By the way I am Doug Wright from 'Save our NHS'. As the Council has been made aware, the 2018/19 NHS allocation for Doncaster CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group) is nearly three quarters of a million pounds less than everybody was led to believe in the budget forecast you were given in 2016 when the STP (Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships) changes were being developed. The question is, will this have a significant impact on your Council budget for next year now you have agreed to work together in partnership with the CCG and partners?"

In response, the Mayor gave the following reply:-

“All the impact has been taken account of when you look at the pressures and the savings that’s on the pages that I have quoted previously. Therefore, all account has been taken of the pressures and the increases.”

(B) Question from Mr. A. Ntiege, to the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones.

“With regards to draft BAME HNA, what specific measures are being taken by the Mayor and the Council to ensure accountability in the implementation of the recommendations from the Assessment and what are the steps taken by the Council to resolve the unemployment issues faced by BAME residents?”

The Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones, gave the following reply:-

“Thank you for your question.

The development and implementation of the Black and Ethnic Minority Health Needs Assessment has been led by Doncaster’s Health and Wellbeing Board, a Sub-Committee of Full Council.

At its meeting this month, as part of a regular reporting cycle, the Health and Wellbeing Board will receive an update on the approach to health inequalities.

This will include feedback from an initial round of focus groups. It will also update Board Members on access to and outcomes from treatment services for people with common mental health conditions.

Moving forward, the Board will have an important role in improving health outcomes in relation to the issues identified in the BME Health Needs Assessment and for all communities in Doncaster.

Doncaster is also part of a South Yorkshire pilot to support people out of work with common mental health problems and musculoskeletal problems to return and stay in work.

As this begins, we will monitor how people from BME groups access and benefit from the new offer.

Finally, our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Framework will be considered by Cabinet tomorrow. This includes a number of important steps to support people into employment, including:-

- That more young people from disadvantaged, BME backgrounds, as well as people with a disability, do well at school.
- There is an increase in the number of people from BME communities that take up apprenticeship opportunities in Doncaster; and
- We will identify and reduce the inequalities of health outcomes of BME populations in Doncaster, particularly on access to Mental Health Services.

Once again, thank you for your question”.

As Mr. Ntiege was not in attendance at the meeting, a copy of the Mayor’s response would be sent to Mr Ntiege.

(C) Question from Mr. T. Brown, to the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones.

“Dr Suckling states ‘the best predictor of good health is having a good job’.

16 years on from the Professor Gus John report – Tired of Fighting, DMBC is still virtually mono cultural!

The FOI response sent to me (3.11.17) suggests that BME candidates across DMBC are still over 2 times less likely to be appointed after shortlisting than white candidates who are shortlisted.

Can you honestly explain why such racial disparities continue to exist in 2018 and articulate what actions DMBC can implement (based on best practice) to ensure that the dream of fairness within DMBC/Doncaster becomes a reality?”

The Mayor of Doncaster gave the following reply:-

“Thank you for your question.

My view is that the Council has made significant improvements on the important issue of equality and diversity, but we must continue to deliver further improvements.

I would not agree that the Council is virtually mono-cultural. The Cabinet regularly receives reports on the Council’s workforce profile and the latest data shows that in Quarter 3 of this year, approaching 5% of the Council’s workforce was from an ethnic minority background. This was also an increase on the figure from the previous quarter.

From a workforce perspective, Doncaster Council has an annual calendar of events which promote equality, diversity and inclusion. It also aims to ensure that the Council not only complies with its obligations as an employer under the Equality Act 2010, but goes beyond the protected characteristics in its policy framework, to promote a culture of dignity and respect for all employees.

However, there is always more that can be done, not just in the Council but across Doncaster.

Tomorrow, Cabinet will consider the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Framework for the next three years. The framework sets out in one place, our EDI objectives and arrangements for embedding equality into everything we do.

In developing the framework, we invited the Local Government Association to work with us to help shape our approach, build on our strengths and learn from best practice. The LGA recognised that good progress has been made in 2017 evidenced by the development of the EDI framework and associated governance arrangements.

Specific objectives for the coming year include:-

- That more young people from disadvantaged, BME backgrounds as well as people with a disability do well at school;
- There is an increase in the number of people from BME communities that take up apprenticeship opportunities in Doncaster;
- Reviewing our recruitment practices to improve diversity in our workforce and become more reflective of Doncaster's population; and
- We will identify and reduce the inequalities of health outcomes of BME populations in Doncaster, particularly on access to Mental Health Services.

The EDI Board will receive regular reports on progress towards the objectives set out in this framework. In conjunction with our performance management framework quarterly monitoring process, the issue of equality, diversity and inclusion will have rigour, focus and transparency in the way it is managed and reported.

Once again, thank you for your question.”

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13.10, Mr. Brown asked the Mayor, the following supplementary question:-

“Mayor Jones, once again you have failed to answer my very specific question. It was a question and I stand here today as a parent.

All I am trying to do with respect and I didn't even want to be here today, because I find it a very intimidating atmosphere. I just want to give some context that as a parent, I have been asking these questions for over 23 years about why is it that black young people, from the Council's own figures, are two times less likely to be appointed after being shortlisted and at the interview stage than a white person.

With respect, there is nowhere in this response, where Mayor Jones has bothered to answer this question. Why don't we look at best practice? Why don't we look at McKinsey's who are addressing such disparities; look at who is sitting on our interview Panels. Why is it that this Council can't afford some support to BME candidates. Why is it that BME candidates cannot be afforded acting-up opportunities?

Mayor Jones makes reference to apprenticeships. As a parent, very few of these apprenticeships are fit for purpose in the sense that very few are for three years. They are what I call 'Mickey Mouse'. I would not allow my children to be on many of these one year apprenticeships that lead to nowhere. When I put my son forward to a higher apprenticeship for Doncaster Council, in the application, they put that you must have experience of Doncaster Council's financial procedures, etc. Thankfully, my son is at Newcastle University. He can't get into Doncaster Council, which is one of his preferred options because he is running up a £50k debt, which a lot of young people are facing. His preferred option

would have been an apprenticeship. Those are the kind of responses that I would have wanted.

Mayor Jones, after 20 odd years of me coming here, I have sat on the Equal Opportunities Panel 20 odd years ago. It's great to see Mick Cooper in the audience here. He will remember me starting up as a founder member of 'Friends of Grove Gardens'. I am a net giver. My family are net givers. My sister has worked 30 odd years at the NHS delivering babies. And yet it is still the case that the Health Needs Assessment is still 14 years out of date.

There is no BME voice or infrastructure in Doncaster. I will keep on coming here and keep asking these questions until there is fairness, not just for my family, but for everybody. Thank you very much."

In response, the Mayor gave the following reply:-

"Mr Brown, I take this issue seriously and as I have already said in my response, progress has been made. However, we will be reviewing our recruitment practices to seek to further improve diversity in the Council's workforce and become more reflective of Doncaster's population. Thank you."

## 75 REVENUE BUDGET 2018/19 TO 2020/21

Prior to Members' consideration of the report, the Chair of Council, Councillor George Derx, reminded Members there was a legal requirement to include in the minutes, details of how each Elected Member had voted on decisions relating to the budget and level of Council Tax. Therefore, agenda items 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 would all be subject to a recorded vote and voting preferences would be documented in the minutes.

The Monitoring Officer reported that as outlined in the various budget reports, the financial challenges faced by both this Council and indeed other Councils, were large. He explained that it was difficult to make savings on the scale required without any impact on services and residents, and there would inevitably be some impact on particular groups, including those with protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, which are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships. The Council was not legally obligated to reject savings with negative impacts on any particular groups, but must consider carefully and with rigour the impact of its proposals on the Public Sector Equality Duty and take a reasonable and proportionate view about the overall impact on particular groups, and seek to mitigate negative impacts where possible.

The Monitoring Officer added that in this context, the Council's proposals for achieving savings were considered to be reasonable overall and took adequate account of the duties set out under the Equality Act. He referred to Appendix L of the Budget Report (page 105 of today's agenda) which listed those budget proposals which would require the production of Due Regard Statements and which would require further decision making prior to implementation.

Furthermore, in relation to Item 9, the Housing Revenue Account Budget, Members would have read the comprehensive Due Regard Statement which was contained at Appendix C (page 163) of today's agenda. The Monitoring Officer highlighted that

when considering this report, Members should consider the contents of that Due Regard Statement and their obligations under the Equality Act 2010.

The Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones, presented the report to Council, which sought approval of the Revenue Budget proposals for 2018/19 to 2020/21.

The Mayor stated that the proposals delivered another prudent three year financial plan aligned to the Doncaster Growing Together strategy approved by Council, which focused on protecting and improving front line services, and investing in Doncaster's future.

The Mayor advised that the two main changes announced by the Government since her original proposals were presented to Council were:-

- An additional one off social care grant of £944,000, which the Council will use to reduce the saving required in relation to home care and residential care; and
- The freedom to increase core Council Tax up to 3%. However, the Council had chosen not to do this.

The Mayor stated that, as everyone was aware, the Council continued to face a difficult financial challenge. There had been no let-up by the Conservative Government. Their savage cuts to Council budgets had left the Council with another significant budget gap. Over the next three years, the Council needed to meet a further budget gap of £44m. This was on top of the £224m of ongoing savings the Council had already had to find in its annual Revenue Budget since the Government austerity measures began.

The Mayor emphasised that it would take the total annual budget gap the Council has had to bridge to more than £267m since the Government austerity measures took hold in 2010/11.

The Mayor remained extremely disappointed that the Government had not taken the opportunity to deal with the national funding problems facing Local Authorities, particularly with regard to Adult Social Care and Children's Services. She felt that their answer, which was to underfund vital services and yet increase the financial burden on local Council Tax payers, was wrong.

The Mayor explained that through the Council's careful planning and prudent approach over the last four years, it had managed to limit the total proposed rise in Doncaster next year to 3.99%, which was well below the maximum 6% that the Government was now allowing, which many other parts of the country were experiencing. This meant that Doncaster would have the seventh lowest Council Tax in the Country amongst Metropolitan and Unitary Authorities. It was also the lowest increase and the lowest level of Council Tax in South Yorkshire. However, she was deeply disappointed that the Prime Minister had forced these costs on to many of the people who could least afford them.

The Mayor informed Members that the Council's only course of action was to grow its way out of this situation. The good news was that in Doncaster, the Council was delivering on that agenda and its approach was paying dividends.

The Mayor thanked all of the staff, partners and colleagues who had helped to deliver the Council's successes in often difficult circumstances. This proposal continued the Council's prudent and effective, but ambitious approach to delivering services and supporting the Borough.

The Mayor concluded by stating that she was grateful to Members from Overview and Scrutiny for their contribution to the budget process and understood that there were no proposed amendments to the budget from colleagues in the Chamber.

Following the presentation of the Revenue Budget 2018/19 to 2020/21 proposals, Members were afforded the opportunity to comment on the report.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 21.4, a recorded vote was taken on the recommendations contained within the report, which was declared as follows:-

For - 43

The Chair of Council, Councillor George Derx, the Vice-Chair of Council, Councillor Majid Khan, the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Glyn Jones, and Councillors Duncan Anderson, Lani-Mae Ball, Nigel Ball, Iris Beech, Joe Blackham, Rachael Blake, Nigel Cannings, Bev Chapman, Mick Cooper, Linda Curran, Susan Durant, Nuala Fennelly, Neil Gethin, Sean Gibbons, John Gilliver, Pat Haith, Rachel Hodson, Charlie Hogarth, Mark Houlbrook, David Hughes, Eva Hughes, Ken Keegan, Jane Kidd, Nikki McDonald, Chris McGuinness, Sue McGuinness, John McHale, Bill Mordue, John Mounsey, David Nevett, Jane Nightingale, Andy Pickering, Andrea Robinson, Kevin Rodgers, Dave Shaw, Derek Smith, Frank Tyas, Austen White and Sue Wilkinson.

Against - 7

Councillors Nick Allen, Jane Cox, Steve Cox, Martin Greenhalgh, R. Allan Jones, Cynthia Ransome and Jonathan Wood.

Abstain - 0

On being put to the meeting, the recommendation contained within the report was declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED that the Revenue Budget proposals for 2018/19 to 2020/21 Revenue Budget, as set out in the report, be approved including:-

- (1) the revenue budget proposals for 2018/19, as detailed at Appendix B (pressures £5.615m) and Appendix C (savings £17.702m);
- (2) Council Tax to be increased by 3.99% to £1,287.20 for a Band D property (£858.13 for a Band A) for 2018/19. This includes:-
  - (i) 1.99% Council Tax increase equates to an increase of £24.63 for Band D per annum, £0.47 per week (£16.42 for Band A per annum, £0.31 per week);

- (ii) 2.00% Government's Social Care "precept" equates to an increase of £24.76 for Band D per annum, £0.47 per week (£16.50 for Band A per annum, £0.32 per week).
- (3) the 2018/19 Grants to third Sector Organisations, as outlined in paragraph 30 and Appendix G;
- (4) the fees and charges proposed for 2018/19 at Appendix H;
- (5) the Medium Term Financial Forecast including all proposals in the report, as set out in Appendix E; and
- (6) a gross revenue expenditure budget of £477.6m and a net revenue expenditure budget of £214.8m, as detailed in Appendix E.

## 76 CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2018/19 TO 2021/22

Council received a report which set out the Capital Programme Budget proposals for 2018/19 to 2021/22.

In presenting the report, the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones, stated that despite the Government's revenue budgets cuts, it was vital that the Council continued to invest in Doncaster's future for the benefit of its residents and to stimulate economic growth, and job creation. She was therefore very pleased to introduce the Council's Capital Budget proposals, which would see an estimated £349m of investment across the Borough over the period 2018/19 to 2021/22.

The Mayor reported that this year alone, £129m of spend was estimated. In particular, residents would see significant progress on a number of important projects to revitalise the Town Centre and drive forward the Borough's economy. Key to this ambition was the Council's schemes to progress the exciting Urban Centre Masterplan, which would help to reshape the Town Centre as a key economic driver for the Borough. It aimed to make Doncaster Town Centre a vibrant hub, with more people living and working in the area, and improvements to the leisure and culture offer.

This year, residents and businesses would see significant progress on a number of schemes, including:-

- The regeneration of Doncaster's historic market, focused on the redevelopment of the Grade II Listed Wool Market.
- An improved gateway into the Town Centre at the railway station, making major improvements to the area for railway station users, and encouraging new investment in this part of town; and
- Construction of the new Central Library, Museum and Art Gallery would commence, continuing the development of the Civic and Cultural Quarter and bringing the former Girls School site back into use, incorporating the original frontage into the new scheme.

The Mayor advised that as these schemes progressed, the Council also had a pipeline of new projects to continue the masterplan development, including Quality Streets proposals for Silver Street and Hallgate.

Elsewhere in the Borough, the Council would continue its success in using major transport schemes to deliver new jobs, economic growth and housing, including:-

- £13.3m was earmarked for the DN7 Unity Hatfield Link Road; a new 3km road from J5, M18. It was expected to deliver 3,100 houses, 395,000m<sup>2</sup> of commercial floor space and a local centre with new retail and educational facilities over a 30 year timeframe;
- Phase 2 of the Great Yorkshire Way would open this year, taking visitors directly to Doncaster Sheffield Airport, enabling 396,000m<sup>2</sup> of commercial development; and
- The £10.3m A630 Westmoor Link would unlock housing and employment sites by introducing new infrastructure improvements, including high capacity junctions and widening a narrow railway bridge.

The Mayor commented that where the market had been unable to deliver on its own, the Council was stepping in to help bring new economic development schemes to fruition. At Lakeside, the Council would develop the Herten Triangle scheme to deliver new leisure facilities with a number of restaurants, cafe and drive through units. As well as creating new jobs for local people, the project was expected to generate £0.5m per year in rent and around £0.3m per year of new business rates, helping to offset the impact of Government cuts.

However, the Mayor highlighted that the Capital Programme was not limited to major economic development schemes. Over the next two years, 151 new Council owned affordable units would be delivered through the Council's Affordable Housing building programme investing £16.8m, which included the major regeneration and redevelopment at the Wheatley Howards Estate.

The Mayor also reported that further funding totalling £20.6m had been earmarked for new build developments, subject to scheme approval. It was estimated this would deliver in the region of 180 additional units.

Members were informed that the Council would also be improving its existing Council Housing stock with £15.3m allocated in 2018/19 for improving and maintaining existing Council homes. A further £3.6m would be spent on high-rise fire safety improvements, including the introduction of new fire suppressant and sprinkler systems following the tragic Grenfell Fire. In addition, £5.4m would be invested in Energy Efficiency Works on hard to treat properties, improving the lives of our tenants.

In Adults Services, 1200 housing adaptations for the disabled were estimated to be completed per year, with an estimated funding package of £17.8m.

In relation to Children and Young People, twenty nine schools were estimated to have a range of improvement works completed in 2018/19, including roof replacements, electrical and lighting upgrades, window replacement and heating system improvements, investing £11.1m. £1.5m would also be invested through Doncaster Children's Services Trust for the construction and acquisition of accommodation for Care Leavers.

With regard to Doncaster Culture and Leisure Trust, this was also the final year of a 5 year programme of investment in the Council's leisure facilities, with a £3.8m allocation for 2018/19. £1.3m was estimated to be used on fabric maintenance and system replacement in 2018/19, mainly at Adwick, Dearne Valley and the Dome.

The Mayor further reported that in relation to the Borough's roads, an estimated £4.4m of LTP capital funded works would be programmed for highway, bridge and street lighting maintenance schemes in 2018/19. This funding would support on average per year approximately, 25km of surface dressing, strengthening and resurfacing around 10km of local roads and reconstructing and resurfacing around 8km of footways in 2018/19.

In addition, it was anticipated that around 15,000m<sup>2</sup> of permanent patching repairs would be undertaken in 2018/19 in support of pothole repairs, pothole prevention measures and routine maintenance. £1.3m would be invested in street lighting column replacements.

To conclude, the Mayor commented that this was an excellent and exciting Capital Programme which invested in the Borough for the benefit of residents both now and in the future.

Following the presentation of the Capital Programme 2018/19 to 2021/22 proposals, Members were afforded the opportunity to comment on the report.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 21.4, a recorded vote was taken on the recommendations contained within the report, which was declared as follows:-

For - 43

The Chair of Council, Councillor George Derx, the Vice-Chair of Council, Councillor Majid Khan, the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Glyn Jones, and Councillors Duncan Anderson, Lani-Mae Ball, Nigel Ball, Iris Beech, Joe Blackham, Rachael Blake, Nigel Cannings, Bev Chapman, Mick Cooper, Linda Curran, Susan Durant, Nuala Fennelly, Neil Gethin, Sean Gibbons, John Gilliver, Pat Haith, Rachel Hodson, Charlie Hogarth, Mark Houlbrook, David Hughes, Eva Hughes, Ken Keegan, Jane Kidd, Nikki McDonald, Chris McGuinness, Sue McGuinness, John McHale, Bill Mordue, John Mounsey, David Nevett, Jane Nightingale, Andy Pickering, Andrea Robinson, Kevin Rodgers, Dave Shaw, Derek Smith, Frank Tyas Austen White and Sue Wilkinson.

Against - 7

Councillors Nick Allen, Jane Cox, Steve Cox, Martin Greenhalgh, R. Allan Jones, Cynthia Ransome and Jonathan Wood.

Abstain - 0

On being put to the meeting, the recommendation contained within the report was declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED that the Capital Budget proposals for 2018/19 to 2021/22, as detailed in the report, be approved, including:-

- (1) the Capital Programme, noting the proposed investment over the next four years and what that would deliver; and
- (2) Cabinet take responsibility for agreeing any significant changes to the Schools Condition Programme and the Local Transport Plan funding, and that they be agreed in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder.

## 77 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET 2018/19

Council received a report presented by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Glyn Jones, Cabinet Member for Housing and Equalities, which set out the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget for the 2018/19 financial year and the medium term financial forecast for the next three years.

The Deputy Mayor informed Members that the account had a budget to break even and was targeted to have a working balance of £4.0m over the next four years.

The Deputy Mayor outlined the recommendations within the report, which included:-

- That housing rents were decreased by 1% in 2018/19 and in 2019/20. This decrease was a statutory change which was included within the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016. 2018/19 was the third of four years where there would be a 1% rent reduction.
- The rent reductions had significantly reduced the resources available within the HRA but the Council was confident that it would not reduce its ability to deliver excellent value for money services to all tenants and ensure that the Council maintained the investment in tenant's homes, especially around ensuring that they were as energy efficient as possible. The Council was also able to deliver significant fire safety improvements in its nine high rise blocks.

The Deputy Mayor expressed his disappointment that the four year rent reductions did reduce the number of new build Council houses that the Council was able to deliver, but this reduction had not stopped the Council House New Build Programme. This decrease made a small weekly difference for tenants, but every little helped in the current economic climate.

The Deputy Mayor reported that the average rent in Doncaster would be the lowest of all Metropolitan District Councils at £69.83 per week. Also, inflationary increases in the charges for garages and enclosed gardens were the first increase since April 2014.

He added that the HRA continued to fund £40m of investment within the Council stock during 2018/19. The main areas of investment were fire safety works, the Council House new build programme, the regeneration of the Bristol Grove area in Wheatley, continued investment in new energy efficient boilers and heating systems and new roofs, including fascias, gutters and soffits.

Following the presentation of the Housing Revenue Account Budget proposals, Members were afforded the opportunity to comment on the report.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 21.4, a recorded vote was taken on the recommendations contained within the report, which was declared as follows:-

For - 43

The Chair of Council, Councillor George Derx, the Vice-Chair of Council, Councillor Majid Khan, the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Glyn Jones, and Councillors Duncan Anderson, Lani-Mae Ball, Nigel Ball, Iris Beech, Joe Blackham, Rachael Blake, Nigel Cannings, Bev Chapman, Mick Cooper, Linda Curran, Susan Durant, Nuala Fennelly, Neil Gethin, Sean Gibbons, John Gilliver, Pat Haith, Rachel Hodson, Charlie Hogarth, Mark Houlbrook, David Hughes, Eva Hughes, Ken Keegan, Jane Kidd, Nikki McDonald, Chris McGuinness, Sue McGuinness, John McHale, Bill Mordue, John Mounsey, David Nevett, Jane Nightingale, Andy Pickering, Andrea Robinson, Kevin Rodgers, Dave Shaw, Derek Smith, Frank Tyas, Austen White and Sue Wilkinson.

Against - 7

Councillors Nick Allen, Jane Cox, Steve Cox, Martin Greenhalgh, R. Allan Jones, Cynthia Ransome and Jonathan Wood.

Abstain - 0

On being put to the meeting, the recommendation contained within the report was declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED that the Housing Revenue Account budget proposals, as set out within the report, be approved including:-

- (1) rents be reduced from 2nd April, 2018, by 1.0%, as detailed in paragraphs 7 to 10 of the report in line with Government policy; this would result in an average weekly rent decrease of £0.71, resulting in an average rent of approximately £69.83 per week. Rents would be charged every week of the year;
- (2) the budget proposals for the HRA for 2018/19, which are contained in Appendix A, which set a balanced budget for the HRA and maintain a reserve of £4.0m; and
- (3) fees and charges, as detailed in paragraph 13 of the report.

78 THE TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2018/19 - 2021/22

The Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones, presented a report which provided details of the Strategy for the management of the Council's finances and provided a framework for the operation of the Treasury Management function within the Council.

The Mayor explained that the Treasury Management function ensured that sufficient cash was available to meet the service requirements and the Capital Programme plans. The Council had to ensure that it had access to money to pay its bills and it was vital that the Council managed its finances in the best interests of local residents. The Strategy proposed how the Council would take a sound and robust approach to achieve those goals, setting out the Council's plans for the coming three years.

It was reported that investment interest rates remained low, but forecast interest rates were due to rise over the term of the Strategy. However, the Mayor explained that despite current volatility, the general consensus was that any rises would be slow and steady. Borrowing continued to be taken to support the Capital Programme and refinance matured loans, but this would be taken over short terms and at very low rates (less than 1.5%) to keep interest costs as low as possible.

The Mayor advised that further borrowing would be needed to help fund the Capital Programme. This would be taken when needed and at the most advantageous interest rates achievable. There were also loans totalling £32.5m expiring during 2018/19 which would require refinancing. It was further explained that the Council was required to put aside an element of General Fund capital spend in much the same way as people would pay capital off their mortgage. This was called Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP).

Following a review, the Council had amended the MRP policy to allow the Council to use the most beneficial method of MRP calculation whilst complying with revised Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government regulations.

Overall the Mayor believed that this Strategy was a sensible and appropriate approach to managing the Council's financing requirements.

Members were afforded the opportunity to comment on the Strategy.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 21.4, a recorded vote was taken on the recommendations contained within the report, which was declared as follows:-

For - 42

The Chair of Council, Councillor George Derx, the Vice-Chair of Council, Councillor Majid Khan, the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Glyn Jones, and Councillors Duncan Anderson, Lani-Mae Ball, Nigel Ball, Iris Beech, Joe Blackham, Rachael Blake, Nigel Cannings, Bev Chapman, Mick Cooper, Linda Curran, Susan Durant, Nuala Fennelly, Neil Gethin, Sean Gibbons, John Gilliver, Pat Haith, Rachel Hodson, Charlie Hogarth, Mark Houlbrook, David Hughes, Eva Hughes, Ken Keegan, Jane Kidd, Nikki McDonald, Chris McGuinness, Sue McGuinness, Bill Mordue, John Mounsey, David Nevett, Jane Nightingale, Andy Pickering, Andrea Robinson, Kevin Rodgers, Dave Shaw, Derek Smith, Frank Tyas, Austen White and Sue Wilkinson.

Against - 7

Councillors Nick Allen, Jane Cox, Steve Cox, Martin Greenhalgh, R. Allan Jones, Cynthia Ransome and Jonathan Wood.

Abstain - 0

On being put to the meeting, the Treasury Management Strategy was declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED that

- (1) the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2018/19 - 2021/22 report and the Prudential Indicators included, be approved; and
- (2) the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy, as set out in paragraphs 26 - 27, and Appendix B of the report, be approved.

79 COUNCIL TAX SETTING AND STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS 2018/19

The Council considered a report, presented by the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones, which set out how the Council Tax was calculated and made recommendations regarding Doncaster Council's Council Tax requirement for 2018/19.

It was proposed that Doncaster Council's element of the Band D Council Tax charge be increased by 3.99% for 2018/19 to £1,287.20. The proposals included an increase in the core Council Tax of 1.99%, as set out in the 2018/19 Revenue Budget and an increase in the Adult Social Care Precept of 2%.

The Mayor reported that just under 88% of domestic properties in Doncaster fell into Bands A, B and C with 59% falling in Band A. The proposals equated to a charge of £858.13 for a Band A property, which was an increase of £0.63 per week.

The report included an increase in Council Taxes of the Joint Authorities (South Yorkshire Police and South Yorkshire Fire) which represented an overall increase of 4.33% for Doncaster residents. This meant that Doncaster would have the seventh lowest Council Tax level in the Country amongst Metropolitan and Unitary Authorities, and the lowest in South Yorkshire.

Following the presentation of the Council Tax Setting and Statutory Resolutions 2018/19 report, Members were afforded the opportunity to comment on the report.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 21.4, a recorded vote was taken on the recommendations contained within the report, which was declared as follows:-

For - 43

The Chair of Council, Councillor George Derx, the Vice-Chair of Council, Councillor Majid Khan, the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Glyn Jones, and Councillors Duncan Anderson, Lani-Mae Ball, Nigel Ball, Iris Beech, Joe Blackham, Rachael Blake, Nigel Cannings, Bev Chapman, Mick Cooper, Linda Curran, Susan Durant, Nuala Fennelly, Neil Gethin, Sean Gibbons, John Gilliver, Pat Haith, Rachel Hodson, Charlie Hogarth, Mark Houlbrook, David Hughes, Eva Hughes, Ken Keegan, Jane Kidd, Nikki McDonald, Chris McGuinness, Sue McGuinness, John McHale, Bill Mordue, John Mounsey, David Nevett, Jane Nightingale, Andy Pickering, Andrea Robinson, Kevin Rodgers, Dave Shaw, Derek Smith, Frank Tyas, Austen White and Sue Wilkinson.

Against - 7

Councillors Nick Allen, Jane Cox, Steve Cox, Martin Greenhalgh, R. Allan Jones, Cynthia Ransome and Jonathan Wood.

## Abstain - 0

On being put to the meeting, the recommendation contained within the report was declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED that the Council approve a Band D Council Tax for 2018/19 of £1,287.20 for Doncaster Council services and passed the appropriate Statutory Resolutions, as set out and recommended at Appendix B, which incorporated the Council Taxes of the Joint Authorities and which, taken together with Doncaster's 3.99% increase, represented a 4.33% increase from the 2017/18 Council Tax for Doncaster residents.

## 80 CORPORATE PLAN 2018-19

The Council considered a report which sought approval of an updated 2018/19 Corporate Plan, which provided a clear direction for the work of the Council for the next year.

In presenting the report, the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones, reported that in September 2017, the Council and its partners launched the 'Doncaster Growing Together' (DGT) Plan; a new Borough Strategy for the next four years. Delivering the Doncaster Growing Together Plan was the Council's key priority and the Corporate Plan outlines the Council's contribution to achieving this.

The Mayor was pleased to propose an updated plan, setting out the Council's priorities for the coming year, which included:-

- Delivering the Council's major urban centre projects including:-
  - Transforming Doncaster station forecourt to provide a gateway into the Town;
  - Redevelopment of the Wool Market;
  - Commencing construction of the new central library, museum and art gallery;
  - Completion of Great Yorkshire Way Phase 2;
  - Construction of the Herten Triangle Leisure Project at Lakeside; and
  - Proposals to develop Hall Gate and Silver Street as part of the Quality Street initiative.
- Developing an integrated Employment and Advancement Service;
- Delivering our Social Mobility Opportunity Area action plan, including improving careers information and advice for young people; and
- Working with Sport England to pilot improvements in physical activity across the Borough

The Mayor highlighted that a key change to the plan since last year, was the inclusion of 'Service Standards', reflecting what the Council needed to do well, day in, day out. As with last year, the Corporate Plan included an additional 'Connected Council' theme; this was to ensure that the Council continued to improve how it operated, how it dealt with continued tough financial conditions and was ready for any future

challenges it may face. For example, how the Council continue to make the most of technology to provide modern, accessible services.

The Mayor commented that she was grateful to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee for considering the Plan and providing their feedback and support.

In concluding her presentation of the report, the Mayor asked for the Council's support for the updated Corporate Plan, in order to focus the Council's efforts over the next year to improve quality of life for residents in the Borough.

Following the presentation of the report, Members were afforded the opportunity to comment on the report.

RESOLVED that updated 2018/19 Corporate Plan, be noted.

81 APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL RETURNING OFFICER FOR BARNESLEY, DONCASTER, ROTHERHAM AND SHEFFIELD COMBINED AUTHORITY ELECTION

The Council received a report which informed Members of the appointment of the Council's Chief Executive, Johanna Miller, as the Local Returning Officer for the Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield Combined Authority election to be held on 3rd May, 2018.

It was reported that the Combined Authority had appointed its Chief Executive, Dave Smith, as Returning Officer for the election, but each voting area (Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield) were required to appoint a Local Returning Officer to ensure that the election was administered appropriately in its own area.

Following recent issues surrounding the Combined Authority and the desire of Doncaster and Barnsley Councils to join a Wider Yorkshire devolution model, rather than a smaller South Yorkshire arrangement, a Community Poll was held during December 2017, which overwhelmingly demonstrated that the preference of the people of Doncaster and Barnsley was to join a Wider Yorkshire rather than the Sheffield City Region Combined Authority.

It was noted that following the outcome of the Community Poll, Ros Jones the Mayor of Doncaster and the Leader of Barnsley Council, both wrote to Sajid Javid, the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, proposing that the May 2018 election be postponed and that the desire of Doncaster and Barnsley to join a Wider Yorkshire proposition be respected.

Unfortunately, these discussions had not, to date, been successful and in May 2018, the Combined Authority election would take place at an estimated cost of £2m. It remained the ambition of Doncaster Council, and almost all of the other Local Authorities in Yorkshire, to establish a Wider Yorkshire Combined Authority. In order to achieve this aim, Doncaster Council would need to leave the Sheffield City Region Combined Authority.

In commenting on the report, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Glyn Jones, whilst being supportive of the recommendation, felt that it was unfortunate that £2m of public money was being spent on the election, when there could have been an interim Mayor

for two years, as in Greater Manchester, before Andy Burnham was elected in May last year. The election was nonetheless going ahead, despite the Council's Community Poll which showed Doncaster residents, alongside the business community, to be firmly in favour of a wider Yorkshire deal.

The Deputy Mayor stated that he was backing Dan Jarvis to be Labour's Mayoral candidate, not least because he would deliver on the Wider Yorkshire ambitions.

The Deputy Mayor updated Members in relation to two meetings that had taken place during the last week. Firstly, the Deputy Mayor reported that he had attended an All Party Parliamentary Group session for the Yorkshire and Humber in the House of Commons, together with 70 other people from across Yorkshire, representing the public and private sectors, trade unions, MPs and the House of Lords. They had met with Sajid Javid, the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, and all the 18 Councils present had confirmed their support for One Yorkshire, during which the Secretary of State invited Councils to submit firm proposals thereon. The Deputy Mayor reported that whilst the Secretary of State didn't confirm whether or not a wider Yorkshire deal would be accepted, but that 'his door was clearly open'. The Secretary of State had asked the Group to show him what they had agreed. The Secretary of State was clear that South Yorkshire Councils could be part of Wider Yorkshire from the very outset. The Deputy Mayor expected that meant that a South Yorkshire Mayor would only be in place until the Yorkshire deal was finalised, which meant that we were working towards Yorkshire Devolution by 2020. The Deputy Mayor undertook to provide a copy of the briefing note from the meeting of members of the All Party Parliamentary Group session for the Yorkshire and Humber and the Secretary of State on 27 February 2018, in relation to a One Yorkshire approach to Devolution, to all Members following the meeting.

The Deputy Mayor further reported that this morning, he had attended a meeting with Yorkshire Leaders in Leeds on behalf of Mayor Ros Jones. He stated that again, 18 out of 20 Yorkshire Councils were represented (except Sheffield and Rotherham) and that it was an extremely positive meeting and the Yorkshire Leaders had agreed a high level set of Devolution proposals to submit to the Secretary of State. The Deputy Mayor added that these proposals were being finalised and were being sent to the Secretary of State within the next few days. As soon as, that was finalised, the Deputy Mayor gave an undertaking to send a copy of Yorkshire's Devolution Submission Agreement to all Members of the Council.

RESOLVED to note the appointment of the Council's Chief Executive Johanna Miller, as the Local Returning Officer for the Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield Combined Authority Election to be held on 3rd May, 2018.

82 QUESTIONS BY ELECTED MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES 15.2 AND 15.3

A. Questions on Notice

No questions on Notice from Elected Members, had been received for this meeting.

B. Questions Without Notice

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15.2, the Chair of Council sought questions from Elected Members during question time.

A. Questions to the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones

There were no questions put to the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones.

B. Questions to the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Glyn Jones, Cabinet Member for Housing and Equalities

There were no questions put to the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Glyn Jones, Cabinet Member for Housing and Equalities.

C. Questions to Councillor Nigel Ball, Cabinet Member for Public Health, Leisure and Culture

Q. Councillor Cynthia Ransome asked the following question:-

“My question relates to volunteers for Community Libraries. When the last administration won an award for creating community libraries, there were certain ones that we kept in the Council; usually, in deprived areas, for the simple reason that we felt that they were a necessity. Can you please explain why Adwick School allows their pupils to leave at 2.30pm in the afternoon and the Library at Woodlands, which is practically next door, closes at 2.30pm every day. There is also a notice on the door which says that computers are switched off at 2.15pm. How does this help the students?”

A. Councillor Nigel Ball, gave the following response:-

“Thank you very much for your question Councillor. I wasn’t aware of this and I am not aware of when each individual Library opens and closes, but that is something that I am willing to look at and I will come back to you on that.”

D. Questions to Councillor Joe Blackham, Cabinet Member for Highways, Street Scene and Trading Services

There were no questions put to Councillor Joe Blackham, Cabinet Member for Highways, Street Scene and Trading Services.

E. Questions to Councillor Rachael Blake, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care

There were no questions put to Councillor Rachael Blake, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care.

F. Questions to Councillor Nuala Fennelly, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools

There were no questions put to Councillor Nuala Fennelly, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools.

G. Questions to Councillor Chris McGuinness, Cabinet Member for Communities, Voluntary Sector and the Environment

Q. Councillor Jonathan Wood asked the following question:-

“Chris, you talked about bins being missed and that people can put extra out this week to try and catch up, but what I wasn’t quite clear about for those people obviously that might be listening or viewing on the Internet, is if somebody missed a black bin during the week when it snowed, does that mean when you said that they can put anything in to catch up the following week, that they can put it in black and green if it’s green the following week? Or does it only mean that they can put the extra black bin waste, the next black bin week, which would mean another two weeks. So they would have been without garbage collection for a month. Can you just confirm which way it is because it could have been either way, and I just want to make sure for those people listening in that they don’t put it out early and get into trouble or anything like that?”

A. Councillor Chris McGuinness, gave the following response:-

“The discussion so far with SITA and Officers is that you put your black waste out that was missed at your next black bin collection.”

Q. Councillor Jane Cox asked the following question:-

“On the back of what Councillor Wood has said, I think there is going to be some confusion about this. Obviously, this week that has just gone was the last week for the green boxes as they were, but they haven’t been collected in some places. I have seen green boxes out where I live and they are full of mixed rubbish because that’s what it was last week. Now, are we going to advise the public whether they need to sort that rubbish in to their blue bin and their green box because obviously, it is mixed and that is not what we are doing next week?”

Councillor Chris McGuinness, gave the following response:-

“It is my understanding and obviously it has been ongoing today and if you ‘hang on’ after the meeting, Officers will be able to answer that. They can still use the green box, but for glass, you have a blue bin you put the rest of the recycling in the blue bin.”

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15.7, Councillor Jane Cox asked the following supplementary question:-

Q. “What I am saying is, the green boxes from last week which were left outside properties, do they need bringing in and sorting and to ask residents to do this?”

A. Councillor Chris McGuinness gave the following response:-

“Yes.”

Further to the above in relation to waste collection, Councillor Neil Gethin reported that there had been an email sent out at 3.15pm today from Gill Gillies, Assistant Director of Environment, to clarify the position in relation to waste collection.

Q. Councillor Gethin asked the following question:-

“Within the literature that was sent out to everybody, I happened to read it today because we were confused over which day the collections were and under the green bin section, it says that you put everything in the blue bin; that is what it says on the actual leaflet that has been sent to everybody, so I think that is where some of the confusion may be. Is that what you are saying; is that correct Chris?

A. Councillor Chris McGuinness gave the following response:-

“No, the glass goes in the green box and the other recycling goes in the blue bin. It said on the leaflet to put the glass in the green box, but it also said to put it in the blue bin which was also an error.”

H. Questions to Councillor Bill Mordue, Cabinet Member for Business, Skills and Economic Development

There were no questions put to Councillor Bill Mordue, Cabinet Member for Business, Skills and Economic Development.

I. Questions to Councillor Jane Nightingale, Cabinet Member for Customer and Corporate Services

There were no questions put to Councillor Jane Nightingale, Cabinet Member for Customer and Corporate Services.

J. Questions to Councillor Austen White, Chair of the Audit Committee

In the absence of Councillor Austen White, Chair of the Audit Committee, the Chair of Council informed Members that any questions for Councillor White should be submitted in writing to the Member Support Office after the meeting and a response would be provided accordingly.

K. Questions to Councillor Phil Cole, Chair of the Elections and Democratic Structures Committee

In the absence of Councillor Phil Cole, Chair of the Elections and Democratic Structures Committee, the Chair of Council informed Members that any questions for Councillor Cole should be submitted in writing to the Member Support Office after the meeting and a response would be provided accordingly.

L. Questions to Councillor Rachael Blake, Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board

There were no questions put to Councillor Rachael Blake, Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

M. Questions to Councillor Kevin Rodgers, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

There were no questions put to Councillor Kevin Rodgers, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

83 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING JOINT AUTHORITIES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the following Joint Authorities, be noted:-

- A. Sheffield City Region Combined Authority held on 29th January, 2018.
- B. Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership Board held on 18th December, 2017.
- C. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority held on 22nd January, 2018.
- D. Sheffield City Region Combined Authority/South Yorkshire Pensions Authority Joint Local Pension Board held on 18th January, 2018.
- E. South Yorkshire Pensions Authority held on 18th January, 2018.
- F. South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel held on 15th December, 2017 and 2nd February, 2018.

Before formally closing the meeting, the Chair of Council, Councillor George Derx, informed Members that the Data Protection training for Members scheduled after the Council meeting had been postponed.

CHAIR: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_