



City of Doncaster Council

Would you please note that Group Meetings will be held at 5.00 p.m. in the Civic Office.

Agenda

To all Members of the

COUNCIL

Notice is given that a Meeting of the Council is to be held as follows:

Venue: Council Chamber, Civic Office, Waterdale, Doncaster, DN1 3BU

Date: Thursday, 21st September, 2023

Time: 6.00 pm

BROADCASTING NOTICE

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Damian Allen
Chief Executive

Issued on: Wednesday, 13 September 2023

Governance Officer for this meeting

David Taylor
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City of Doncaster Council

www.doncaster.gov.uk

ITEMS

1. Apologies for Absence.
2. To consider the extent, if any, to which the public and press are to be excluded from the meeting.
3. Declarations of Interest, if any.
4. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13th July, 2023.
5. To receive any announcements from the Chair of Council, the Mayor, Members of the Cabinet or the Head of Paid Service.
6. Questions from the public in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13:-

1 - 14

- (a) Question from Mr Martin Butterworth to the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones:-

“City of Doncaster Council’s (CDC) Neighbourhood Response Team is actively challenging offenders who are fishing illegally on the lake at Lakeside. It has amassed a large body of evidence of offences being committed by a considerable number of offenders yet not one of these offenders, including several persistent offenders, has been prosecuted. Will the Mayor instruct CDC’s law officers to ensure that action is taken to prosecute offenders for illegal fishing under CDC’s byelaws and will she also liaise with the Police to prosecute offenders under the Theft Act for theft of CDC’s fishing rights?”

- (b) Question from Mr. Kevin Pritchard to the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones:-

“Recent posts in the Bessacarr Lakeside Group garnered circa 200 comments complaining of illegal fishing at Lakeside.

Local residents have spent many hours on the phone reporting to the Council's ASB helpline. Countless more providing video, photographic and written statements to evidence the crimes under Council’s byelaw and provided assurance of eye-witnesses attendance at Court.

There is respected research evidence that shows low level crime, unpunished, leads on to more serious crime.

The Council has made repeated assurances that it will prosecute offenders. When will it do so?”

A. Items where the Public and Press may not be excluded.

For Decision

7. Revisions to the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and Financial Procedure Rules. 15 - 126

8. To consider the following Motion, written notice of which has been given by Councillor Leanne Hempshall and Seconded by Councillor Julie Grace, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16.1:-

Disability Employment Charter

For far too long disabled people have not enjoyed the same employment opportunities as the wider working age population. The employment gap between disabled and non-disabled people has remained persistently large, at approaching 30%, and there is no evidence that significant change is in sight.

The Disability Employment Charter (“the Charter”) was launched in October 2021. The purpose of the Charter is to petition the Government to introduce change to level up opportunities for disabled people seeking and in employment. Organisations which sign the Charter are showing support for the introduction of these measures for change.

The Charter outlines nine areas for the UK Government to consider which will improve disabled people’s employment outcomes. The actions are set out to provide the Government with a road map for change as it develops the next phases of its National Disability Strategy.

Objectives of the Charter are to increase employment opportunities and job satisfaction for disabled people, reduce disability pay gaps, benefit the taxpayer and support the UK’s post-pandemic recovery by providing employers with the widest possible talent pool to address skills shortages.

The measures set out in the Charter align with many of our organisational equality objectives and measures we are already taking as an Authority to support disabled colleagues and if adopted by the Government would further support the Authority to become a more inclusive employer.

To date there is no confirmation about if or when Government will consider the Charter from a national perspective.

The labour market disadvantage disabled people encounter is demonstrated by a large and enduring disability employment gap, and disability gaps in pay, job satisfaction, and work-related well-being.

This charter outlines the action the government needs to take to address the disadvantage disabled people encounter in their working lives.

The Disability Employment Charter was founded by Disability Rights UK, Disability@Work, the University of Warwick, the DFN Charitable Foundation, Leonard Cheshire, Scope, Shaw Trust Foundation, and UNISON.

Over 130 organisations within the public, private and voluntary sectors have become signatories to the Charter. Public sector organisations who have signed up to the Charter include Adur & Worthing Councils, Kent Fire & Rescue Service, Lancashire & South Cumbria NHS Trust and Lancashire Teaching Hospitals.

The Disability Employment Charter -
<https://www.disabilityemploymentcharter.org/>

1. Employment and pay gap reporting.

The government should require all employers with 250+ employees to publish data annually on: the number of disabled people they employ as a proportion of their workforce; their disability pay gap; and the percentage of disabled employees within each pay quartile.

2. Supporting disabled people into employment.

The government should: increase disabled people's access to employment programmes and apprenticeships; increase the scale, quality and awareness of supported employment programmes and supported internships; and increase the provision of tailored careers advice to disabled people.

3. Reform of Access to Work (AtW).

The government should: remove the AtW support cap; ensure application/renewal processes are efficient, personalised, and flexible; entitle disabled job-seekers to 'in principle' indicative awards; facilitate passporting of awards between organisations and from Disabled Student's Allowance to AtW; and increase awareness of AtW support.

4. Reform of Disability Confident.

The government should: require all employers at Disability Confident Levels 2 and 3 to meet minimum thresholds regarding the percentage of disabled people in their workforce; and remove accreditation from employers that do not move up within 3 years from Level 1 to Levels 2 or 3.

5. Leveraging government procurement.

The government should: ensure award decisions for all public sector contracts take into account the percentage of disabled people in the workforce of tendering organisations; require government contractors to work towards a minimum threshold regarding the percentage of disabled people in their workforce; and take failure to achieve this threshold into account in future contract award decisions.

6. Workplace adjustments.

The government should: require employers to notify employees on decisions regarding reasonable adjustment requests within two weeks; make the option to work flexibly from day one the legal default for all jobs; introduce stronger rights to paid disability leave for assessment, rehabilitation and training; and fund an increase in Statutory Sick Pay to the European average.

7. Working with disabled people and their representatives.

The government should: require employers to consult and negotiate with disabled people and their representatives on disability equality matters; and provide trade union equality representatives and disability champions with statutory rights to time off to perform their role.

8. Advice and support.

The government should create a 'one stop shop' portal to provide information, advice and guidance to employers on recruiting and retaining disabled people, and to disabled people on their employment rights.

9. National progress on disability employment.

The government should take into account increasing disability prevalence in calculating the disability employment gap, and use the 'prevalence corrected' employment gap measure in monitoring national progress on disability employment

The City of Doncaster Council therefore Resolves to become a signatory to the Disability Employment Charter and asks the Head of Paid Service and relevant Cabinet Member to write to Government lobbying to bring in legislation or regulations as part of their Disability Strategy which adopts measures requested in the Charter.

9. To consider the following Motion, written notice of which has been given by Councillor Glenn Bluff and Seconded by Councillor Cynthia Ransome, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16.1:-

HGV Restrictions

Residents living on the A635 from Hickleton through Marr to Scawsby have suffered for years with air pollution, noise pollution and damage

to their conservation areas at the expense of the economic development of Barnsley. The promised bypass has never come. Councillor Cynthia Ransome has spent years campaigning for some relief for the residents held hostage by the traffic and had some success with the introduction of speed cameras in early 2021. But it is not enough. The Council, in its newly released Air Quality Action Plan, recognises the perilous air pollution levels on the A635, passing through Marr and Hickleton. The plan recommends an unfunded bypass and highlights the urgent need to reduce traffic within AQMA (Air Quality Management Areas) as a key performance indicator.

The A635 along the route to the A1 from the City centre through Scawsby and Cusworth is an extremely unsuitable single carriageway passing two busy schools that have many parked cars on the road at pick up time. Recent tragic accidents along the length of the A635, including the fatal injury of a pedestrian struck by an HGV in August this year, highlight a significant concern. The problem lies not just in the speed, now controlled by cameras for much of its length, but in the sheer volume of traffic, in particular HGVs traversing this route causing air and noise pollution and vibration nuisance to the properties

The situation extends beyond the protection of residents health in places like Hickleton; it's also about preserving the very fabric of the village itself. Hickleton, recognised as a conservation village, is suffering from considerable damage due to excessive noise and vibration from the heavy vehicles using the road. This has led to not only road surface damage but also harm to the area's historic buildings. Marr is suffering from similar issues along with Scawsby and Cusworth.

This issue is set to escalate with the planned ES10 development in Goldthorpe. An internal report by the Council's Principal Pollution Control Officer (Nov 2021) indicates that Hickleton and Marr have been declared AQMAs by Doncaster Council due to excessive nitrogen dioxide concentrations. Any proposal exacerbating this issue or hindering its resolution is unacceptable. The Council's Principal Pollution Control Officer stated that if it were a Doncaster Council proposal, refusal would be recommended.

If the South Yorkshire Mayoral Authority will not provide a bypass to Doncaster residents despite the available and devolved funds, then Doncaster Council must act to reduce traffic along the A635 by introducing the banning of HGVs. Alternative routes via existing bypasses north of Hickleton and road extensions near South Elmsall leading to the A1 are viable, along with the dual carriageway through Woodlands on the east side. Immediate action is required, and I urge this council chamber to put aside party politics and be brave enough to take the action that is needed. I propose an 18-month experimental Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) that will allow evaluation of a ban on HGVs, an experiment crucial for residents' safety.

Doncaster Council resolves to:-

- Commit to developing a workable plan to implement an 18-month experimental Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, effectively banning HGVs from the key residential areas of Hickleton, Marr, Scawsby and Cusworth along the A635.
- Commit to developing a workable plan to implement Environmental Weight Restriction Orders ((E)WROs) to preserve the local areas and protect Hickleton, Marr, Scawsby and Cusworth from the adverse effects of noise, vibration, road surface deterioration, and structural impacts.
- Conduct a 12-month consultation to review public comments and decide on a permanent order if public support during the consultation period supersedes any objections.
- To present the plans for approval to Full Council in 6 months.

10. Questions by Elected Members in accordance with Council Procedure Rules 15.2 and 15.3:-

(i) Questions on Notice to the Executive:-

None received for this meeting.

(a) From Councillor Jane Cox to Councillor Joe Blackham:-

“Can the Cabinet Member please explain how disabled and elderly are going to navigate 12 inch/30 cm high kerbs on Thorne road Wheatley. They are dangerous especially as we come to dark nights. How does this stand with the Equalities Act as most kerbs are not above 6 inch/15 cm high. Can he also explain how wildlife such as hedgehogs will be able to safely cross the road as the kerbs are not only 12 inch/30 cm high they are a shape that is concave?”

(b) From Councillor Nick Allen to the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones:-

“What are your views on the Government's recent announcement regarding Nitrous Oxide. Do you welcome the ban. I do, and I know many Bessacarr Ward residents do too because of the hugely dangerous impact the substance has on people. Do you feel the ban will be easy to enforce and will it help reduce the amount of canisters dumped in Doncaster's parks and green spaces?”

- (ii) Questions without Notice to the Executive and the Chairs of Committees.

For Information and Not Endorsement

11. Approval of Councillor Absence. 127 - 132
12. To receive the minutes of the following Joint Authorities. 133 - 134
- A. South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority Board held on 31st July, 2023.
- [South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority - 310723](#)
- B. South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority Local Enterprise Partnership Board held on 13th July, 2023.
- [SYMCA Local Enterprise Partnership Board - 130723](#)
- C. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority held on 19th June (Annual) 19th June (Ordinary) and 24th July, 2023.
- [South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority - 190623 \(Annual\)](#)
- [South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority - 190623 \(Ordinary\)](#)
- [South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority - 240723](#)
- D. South Yorkshire Pensions Authority held on 8th June, 2023.
- [South Yorkshire Pensions Authority - 080623](#)
- E. South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel held on 12th June (Annual) and 17th July, 2023.
- [South Yorkshire Police & Crime Panel - 120623](#)
- [South Yorkshire Police & Crime Panel - 170723](#)
- F. Team Doncaster Executive held on 14th March, 2023 (attached).