

# Agenda

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## Council

Date: **Monday 27 January 2020**

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Time: **5.00 pm**

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Place: **Council Chamber - Oxford Town Hall**

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For any further information please contact:

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This meeting will also be available via a webcast. The webcast will be available to view on the City Council's website after the meeting.

# Council

## Membership

**Lord Mayor**      **Councillor Craig Simmons**

**Deputy Lord Mayor**      **Councillor Mohammed Altaf-Khan**

**Sheriff**      **Councillor Stephen Goddard**

<b>Members</b>	<b>Councillor Lubna Arshad</b>	<b>Councillor Dan Iley-Williamson</b>
	<b>Councillor Jamila Begum Azad</b>	<b>Councillor Pat Kennedy</b>
	<b>Councillor Shaista Aziz</b>	<b>Councillor Tom Landell Mills</b>
	<b>Councillor Nadine Bely-Summers</b>	<b>Councillor Ben Lloyd-Shogbesan</b>
	<b>Councillor Susan Brown</b>	<b>Councillor Mark Lygo</b>
	<b>Councillor Nigel Chapman</b>	<b>Councillor Sajjad Malik</b>
	<b>Councillor Mary Clarkson</b>	<b>Councillor Dr Joe McManners</b>
	<b>Councillor Colin Cook</b>	<b>Councillor Chewe Munkonge</b>
	<b>Councillor Tiago Corais</b>	<b>Councillor Susanna Pressel</b>
	<b>Councillor Steven Curran</b>	<b>Councillor Mike Rowley</b>
	<b>Councillor Dr Hosnieh Djafari-Marbini</b>	<b>Councillor Martyn Rush</b>
	<b>Councillor Alex Donnelly</b>	<b>Councillor Christine Simm</b>
	<b>Councillor James Fry</b>	<b>Councillor Linda Smith</b>
	<b>Councillor Andrew Gant</b>	<b>Councillor Roz Smith</b>
	<b>Councillor Stef Garden</b>	<b>Councillor John Tanner</b>
	<b>Councillor Michael Gotch</b>	<b>Councillor Richard Tarver</b>
	<b>Councillor Mick Haines</b>	<b>Councillor Sian Taylor</b>
	<b>Councillor Paul Harris</b>	<b>Councillor Marie Tidball</b>
	<b>Councillor Tom Hayes</b>	<b>Councillor Ed Turner</b>
	<b>Councillor David Henwood</b>	<b>Councillor Louise Upton</b>
	<b>Councillor Alex Hollingsworth</b>	<b>Councillor Elizabeth Wade</b>
	<b>Councillor Richard Howlett</b>	<b>Councillor Dick Wolff</b>
	<b>Councillor Rae Humberstone</b>	

The quorum for this meeting is 12 members

### **Copies of this agenda**

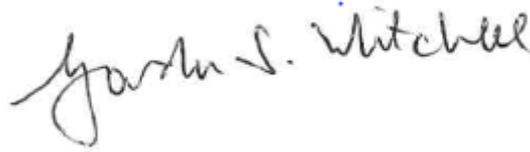
Reference copies are available to consult in the Town Hall Reception. Agendas are published 6 working days before the meeting and the draft minutes a few days after.

All agendas, reports and minutes are available online and can be:

- viewed on our website – [mycouncil.oxford.gov.uk](http://mycouncil.oxford.gov.uk)
- downloaded from our website
- viewed using the computers in the Customer Services, St Aldate's, or
- subscribed to electronically by registering online at [mycouncil.oxford.gov.uk](http://mycouncil.oxford.gov.uk)

## Summons

A meeting of the City Council will be held in the Council Chamber - Oxford Town Hall, on Monday 27 January 2020 at 5.00 pm to transact the business set out below.



Proper Officer

## AGENDA

Pages

### MINUTE'S SILENCE AND TRIBUTES

To hear tributes and observe a minute's silence in memory of former Lord Mayors or serving councillors or serving senior officers who have died.

Honorary Alderman Ann Spokes Symons passed away on 27 December 2019. Ann served as a Conservative city councillor, initially for Summertown and Wolvercote, and subsequently Wolvercote from 1957 to 1995. She was Sheriff in 1973/4 and Lord Mayor in 1976/77 and was made an Honorary Alderman in November 1995. Ann was also a Member of Oxfordshire County Council and served as Chairman from 1981-83.

### PART 1 - PUBLIC BUSINESS

**1 Apologies for absence**

**2 Declarations of interest**

**3 Minutes**

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Council held on 27 November 2019. Council is asked to approve the minutes as a correct record.

**4 Appointment to Committees**

The Head of Law and Governance has not been notified of any resignations from committees or changes of membership requested by group leaders.

Any proposed changes will be circulated with the briefing note.

21 - 30

## 5 **Announcements**

Announcements by:

1. The Lord Mayor
2. The Sheriff
3. The Leader of the Council (who may with the permission of the Lord Mayor invite other councillors to make announcements)
4. The Chief Executive, Chief Finance Officer, Monitoring Officer

## 6 **Public addresses and questions that relate to matters for decision at this meeting**

Public addresses and questions to the Leader or other Cabinet member received in accordance with Council Procedure Rules 11.12, 11.13, and 11.14 relating to matters for decision in Part 1 of this agenda.

**The request to speak accompanied by the full text of the address or question must be received by the Head of Law and Governance by 5.00 pm on Tuesday 21 January 2020.**

The briefing note will contain the text of addresses and questions submitted by the deadline, and written responses where available.

A total of 45 minutes is available for both public speaking items. Responses are included in this time. Up to five minutes is available for each public address and up to three minutes for each question.

## **CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

### 7 **Bullington Community Centre - Project Approval and Award Of Contract**

The Executive Director Customer and Communities submitted a report to Cabinet on 19 December 2019 which sought project approval to replace the existing end of life community building at Bullington, delegate the award of the construction contract to Oxford Direct Services and to recommend Council to increase the total project budget and delegation to award the construction contract to Oxford Direct Services.

The minutes of this meeting are available at Item 13a of this agenda.

Councillor Tidball, the Cabinet Member for Supporting Local Communities, will present the report.

**Recommendations: Cabinet recommends that Council:**

1. **Resolves to approve** an increase in the total project budget by

£200,000 to £1,403,000. This is included as part of the consultation budget.

## 8 **Integrated Performance Report for Quarter 2 2019/20**

45 - 64

The Head of Financial Services and Head of Business Improvement have submitted a report to update Members on finance, risk and corporate performance matters as at 30 September 2019.

The minutes of this meeting are available at Item 13a of this agenda.

Councillor Turner, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Asset Management, will present the report.

### **Recommendations: Cabinet recommends that Council:**

1. **Approve** a virement of £0.500 million from Compulsory purchase of property (N7049) to Extensions & Major Adaptions (N7020) to cover the work of four extensions within the Housing Revenue Account Capital programme as set out in paragraph 10 of the report; and
2. **Approve** the revised Capital Programme budget to be £59.962 million in line with the latest forecast following the major review carried out by officers.

## 9 **Treasury Mid-Year Report 2019/20**

65 - 82

The Head of Financial Services has submitted a report which details the performance of the Treasury Management function for the six months to 30 September 2019.

The minutes of this meeting are available at Item 13a of this agenda.

Councillor Turner, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Asset Management, will present the report.

### **Recommendations: Cabinet recommends that Council:**

1. **Approve** the change of the Indirect Property Funds counterparty category to Pooled Investment Funds; and
2. **Note** that the Council is considering investing in a Multi Asset fund instead of an Indirect Property Fund as was previously anticipated.

## 10 **Use of s106 and Retained Right to Buy Receipts to increase the provision of more affordable housing**

83 - 96

The Head of Housing Services has submitted a report to Cabinet on 22 January 2020 which seeks project approval and delegations to enable

the spending of Retained Right to Buy Receipts and s.106 funding for the purpose of delivering, or enabling the delivery of, more affordable housing, through new build or acquisition activity.

The Cabinet's decision will be reported to Council.

Councillor Mike Rowley, Cabinet Member for Affordable Housing will present the report.

**Recommendations: Cabinet recommends that Council:**

1. **Approve** a capital budget for £3m of expenditure in 2019/20, subsidised using RRTBRs, to enable an off-plan purchase of Social Rented homes, this sum being effectively brought forward from the overall £13.2m identified in 2020/21 in the consultation budget, which would then reduce to £10.2m in 20/21 accordingly.

**11 Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2020-21**

97 - 114

The Head of Financial Services has submitted a report to Cabinet on 22 January 2020 which considers the feedback from the recent consultation on the proposed changes to the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme and to proposes the principles of the new scheme to be drawn up for approval by Council on 27th January.

Cabinet's decision will be reported to Council.

Councillor Turner, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Asset Management, will present the report.

**Recommendations: Cabinet recommends that Council:**

1. **Resolves** to adopt the new Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2020/21.

## OFFICER REPORTS

**12 Constitution Annual Review 2019**

115 - 150

The Monitoring Officer has submitted a report recommending changes to the Council's Constitution following an annual review of the Constitution overseen by a "Cross-Party Constitution Group".

Councillor Chapman, Cabinet Member for Customer Focused Services, will present the report.

Note: Appendix 3 is published as a supplement to this agenda.

**Recommendation: Council is recommended to:**

1. **Note** the list of amendments that the Monitoring Officer has made using delegated powers detailed in Appendix 1;
2. **Approve** the list of proposed amendments to the Constitution detailed in Appendix 2 and highlighted in the draft Constitution at Appendix 3;
3. **Adopt** the revised Oxford City Council Constitution attached at Appendix 3; and
4. **Delegate authority to the Head of Law and Governance** to amend any further wording and/or numbering that is identified as being inconsistent with the changes approved by Council.

## QUESTIONS

### 13 Questions on Cabinet minutes

This item has a time limit of 15 minutes.

Councillors may ask the Cabinet Members questions about matters in these minutes.

#### 13a Minutes of meeting Thursday 19 December 2019 of Cabinet

#### 13b Draft minutes of meeting on 22 January 2020 of Cabinet (to be published in the briefing note if available)

151 - 160

### 14 Questions on Notice from Members of Council

Questions on notice from councillors received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.11(b).

Questions on notice may be asked of the Lord Mayor, a Member of the Cabinet or a Chair of a Committee. One supplementary question may be asked at the meeting.

The full text of questions must have been received by the Head of Law and Governance by no later than 1.00pm on 15 January 2020.

All questions submitted by the deadline will be published with the briefing note giving the questions and written responses where available.

## PART 2 - PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND SCRUTINY

### 15 Public addresses and questions that do not relate to matters for decision at this Council meeting

Public addresses and questions to the Leader or other Cabinet member received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.12, 11.13 and 11.14 and not related to matters for decision in Part 1 of this agenda.

**The request to speak accompanied by the full text of the address or question must be received by the Head of Law and Governance by 5.00 pm on Tuesday 21 January 2020.**

The briefing note will contain the text of addresses and questions submitted by the deadline, and written responses where available.

A total of 45 minutes is available for both public speaking items. Responses are included in this time. Up to five minutes is available for each public address and up to three minutes for each question.

## **16 Outside organisation/Committee Chair reports and questions**

- a) Each ordinary meeting of Council shall normally receive a written report concerning the work of one of the partnerships on which the Council is represented.
- b) Members who are Council representatives on external bodies or Chairs of Council Committees may give notice to the Head of Law and Governance by 1.00 pm on Thursday 23 January that they will present a written or oral report on a matter before, or decision taken by, that body or committee and how it may influence future events. Written reports will be circulated with the briefing note.

### **16a Oxford Strategic Partnership**

161 - 170

The Chief Executive has submitted the annual update report on the Oxford Strategic Partnership.

Councillor Brown, Leader of the Council, will present the report.

**Recommendation: Council is invited to note and comment on the report.**

### **16b Oxford to Cambridge Arc update**

171 - 178

The Assistant Chief Executive has submitted a report which provides an update partnership working between Local Authorities and Local Enterprise Partnerships on the Oxford to Cambridge Arc.

Councillor Brown, Leader of the Council, will present the report.

**Recommendation: Council is invited to note and comment on the report.**

## **17 Scrutiny Committee update report**

179 - 194

The Chair of the Scrutiny Committee has submitted a report which updates Council on the activities of scrutiny and other non-executive Councillors and the implementation of recommendations since the last meeting of Council.

Note: Appendix 2b is published as a confidential supplement to this agenda.

**Council is invited to comment on and note the report.**

## **PART 3 - MOTIONS REPRESENTING THE CITY**

### **18 Motions on notice**

**This item has a time limit of 60 minutes.**

Motions received by the Head of Law and Governance in accordance with Council Procedure Rules by the deadline of 1.00pm on Wednesday 15 January 2020 are listed below.

Motions will be taken in turn from the Labour, Liberal Democrat, Green groups in that order.

Substantive amendments to these motions must be sent by councillors to the Head of Law and Governance by no later than 10.00am on Friday 24 January 2020 so that they may be circulated with the briefing note.

Minor technical or limited wording amendments may be submitted during the meeting but must be written down and circulated.

**Council is asked to consider the following motions:**

- a) Supporting refugee children (cross party motion proposed by Councillor Simmons)
- b) Licensing Private Rented Sector Homes (proposed by Councillor L Smith, seconded by Councillor Taylor)
- c) Car parking and vehicle management city (proposed by Councillor Gant)
- d) Bicycle Mayors (proposed by Councillor Wolff)
- e) Climate Partners (proposed by Councillor Henwood)
- f) International Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons (proposed by Councillor Tanner)
- g) Local Electricity Bill (proposed by Councillor Gant)

h) Homelessness Charter (proposed by Councillor Wolff)

## **18a Supporting refugee children**

### Cross Party motion

#### **Original text**

Council notes that, the world is experiencing the largest refugee crisis since World War Two with UNHCR figures of 68.5m people forcibly displaced. Over half of these are children, many unaccompanied.

Whilst in the EU we have been subject to the Dublin regulation which allows lone children within the EU to apply for legal family reunion with relatives elsewhere within the EU. So, for example, a Syrian orphan who arrives in Greece hoping to find a brother in Oxford has the right to apply to be reunited with him. But when we leave the EU, we will no longer be covered by the Dublin regulation.

In December 1938, the first Kindertransport arrived in Harwich, England. Through this scheme, Britain welcomed 10,000 child refugees, in just 10 months including Alf Dubs (a Labour peer and former MP).

When Theresa May's withdrawal bill was going through parliament, Alf Dubs brought an amendment in the Lords that received cross-party support in both houses. This obliged the government to negotiate that the terms of the Dublin regulation would continue after we left the EU.

However, in Boris Johnson's withdrawal bill, published just before Christmas and passed unamended, the rights of refugee children to be reunited with their families had been removed.

The only option remaining to them is to engage with illegal traffickers or take other dangerous routes. Lack of safe routes to the UK will only lead to further suffering for hugely traumatised children.

Lord Dubs is attempting to reintroduce the amendment into the withdrawal bill before the UK leaves the EU on 31 January 2020 and will no doubt continue to lobby for something with an effect similar to the Dublin regulation to be reinstated if this current attempt fails.

As a City of Sanctuary with a proud record of welcoming refugees and asylum seekers, Oxford deplores the removal of the so-called 'Dubs amendment' from the withdrawal bill.

**We ask the Leader to:**

- 1. urgently write to the City's MPs and the Secretary of State for the Home Department demanding that the rights of refugee children available under the Dublin regulation be reinstated.**
- 2. write to the Leader of Oxfordshire County Council asking them to support the Safe Passage 'Our Turn' Campaign and commit to a target of ten at risk refugee children per year for the next ten years as part of a fully funded Government vulnerable children's resettlement scheme.**

## **18b Licensing Private Rented Sector Homes**

Labour member motion

### **Original text**

This Council notes that:

- The private rented sector is continuing to grow in Oxford, over 30% of Oxford residents rent their home privately.
- This council has a strong record of taking action to improve privately rented homes in our city.
- We were the first in England to use discretionary powers to require every House in Multiple Occupation to be licensed to operate and this has successfully driven up standards.
- We currently use the 2004 Housing Act to regulate the rest of the private rented sector. We carry out 250 inspection visits a year and serve over 300 enforcement notices against poor landlords. However, the last stock condition survey showed that the private rented sector in Oxford has twice the national level of disrepair.
- Local authorities currently have the power to implement licensing for all privately rented homes in no more than 20% of their area or to licence no more than 20% of the privately rented stock. The consent of the Secretary of State is required to approve any licensing scheme which exceeds this 20% rule.

This council believes it should have more powers to enforce minimum property standards and protect tenants.

This council supports a city-wide licensing scheme in order to ensure all Oxford landlords are fit and proper persons and all properties let to the residents of our city meet minimum standards and are a safe place to call home.

This council believes that extending licensing to cover all privately rented homes in the city will continue to improve standards, reduce carbon emissions, drive out rogue landlords, reduce anti-social behaviour and ensure all rented homes are safe to live in.

**This Council therefore resolves to ask the Cabinet Member to continue discussions with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to make the case for a city-wide licensing scheme for every property in the private rented sector, and with Government agreement bring forward a plan to introduce a requirement for every privately let property in Oxford to be licensed.**

### **18c Car parking and vehicle management city**

Liberal Democrat member motion

#### **Original text**

Council notes that a key thread in recent policy thinking around traffic management in our city has been the effect of the availability of parking.

However, Council recognises that its approach in this area has not delivered the outcomes residents are entitled to expect, including regular congestion around Westgate, variable income in its own facilities (alongside a considerable cost for maintenance), considerable unease about both the need for and the delivery of the proposed extension to the Seacourt Park and Ride, and decking at the ice rink sitting unused and unsightly.

**Council therefore asks the Cabinet Member to:**

**Instruct officers to undertake an urgent and comprehensive review of all policies in relation to car parking and vehicle management in Oxford, with the aim of:**

- **Minimising car use and enhancing the environment in our city**
- **Maximising financial benefit to the council**

### **18d Bicycle Mayors**

Green member motion

#### **Original text**

This Council notes the international Bicycle Mayors and Leaders Network (<https://bycs.org/our-work/bicycle-mayors/>), a global initiative to accelerate the progress of cycling in cities and help get another one billion people onto bikes.

Bicycle Mayors are a catalyst to bring together the public and

private realms to uncover the massive economic, health, and environmental benefits of increased cycling.

As a City which aims to improve cycling rates, this Council agrees to appoint an Oxford Bicycle Mayor in line with the Network's aims and goals.

**This Council asks the Leader:  
To set in place the necessary arrangements to facilitate such an appointment**

*(Note: the Network's rules state that a Bicycle Mayor must be someone appointed from outside the Council).*

## **18e Climate Partners**

Independent member motion

### **Original text**

Oxford City Council has many partners and stakeholders both within and outside the city. Oxford City Council in order to develop and facilitate good practice will develop a 360-degree feedback forum on its website, publishing suggestions, materials sharing good practice associated with climate change.

### **Council is resolved to:**

Liaise with its stakeholders and partners including Schools, Colleges, Universities, Community Centres, Parish Councils and retail outlets to ask them to recognise the climate emergency. To facilitate good practice, City Council will make available to these organisations, suggestions on how to deliver sustainable outcomes to contest climate change, and encourage these organisations to contribute their own three-point plan on how they have delivered sustainable outcomes and carbon reduction over the past year. This 360-degree feedback to be promoted on the council's website and other media.

### **Therefore, the Council asks that the Leader:**

- **writes to the council's partners and stakeholders asking them to recognise the climate emergency.**
- **Introduces the 360-degree feedback plan, asking our partners and stakeholders to contribute 3 strategies to contest climate change.**
- **instructs officers to develop a 360-degree feedback page that advises promotes the activities and suggestions of our both the council, it stakeholders and partners.**

## **18f International Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons**

Labour member motion

### **Original text**

Oxford City Council has been a long-standing member of the Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA) which has been working for over three decades to promote multilateral nuclear disarmament.

Oxford City Council is particularly concerned about the huge cost to the taxpayer of nuclear weapons, the risk posed by the regular transport of nuclear weapons on Oxfordshire's roads and the continuing threat of nuclear war.

NFLA has worked with Mayors for Peace and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) to promote the International Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). Over two thirds (122) of United Nations member states have agreed the TPNW.

Council regrets that the Governments of the existing nuclear weapon states, including the UK, refuse to support the Treaty. Council fully supports the TPNW as one of the most effective ways to bring about long-term and verifiable multilateral nuclear disarmament.

Oxford City Council calls on the United Kingdom Government to lead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by:

- Renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first;
- Cancelling the programme to replace its entire Trident nuclear arsenal with enhanced weapons;
- Actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to reduce and then eliminate their nuclear arsenals by supporting both the Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons and the 'Good Faith' Protocols within the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

**Oxford City Council asks the Chief Executive of the Council to write to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the incoming UK Government and Oxford's newly elected MPs to inform them of this resolution and urge them to take appropriate action.**

*Note: Similar resolutions have been agreed by Manchester City Council and Renfrewshire Council. The TPNW was agreed at the UN by 122 countries (including the Republic of Ireland) in July 2017 and is currently being ratified, a process that is expected to conclude in 2019.*

## **18g Local Electricity Bill**

Liberal Democrat member motion

### **Original text**

That Oxford City Council

- (i) acknowledges the efforts that this council has made to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote renewable energy;
- (ii) recognises that councils can play a central role in creating sustainable communities, particularly through the provision of locally generated renewable electricity;
- (iii) further recognises
  - that very large financial setup and running costs involved in selling locally generated renewable electricity to local customers result in it being impossible for local renewable electricity generators to do so,
  - that making these financial costs proportionate to the scale of a renewable electricity supplier's operation would create significant opportunities for councils to be providers of locally generated renewable electricity directly to local people, businesses and organisations, and
  - that revenues received by councils that became local renewable electricity providers could be used to help fund local greenhouse gas emissions reduction measures and to help improve local services and facilities;
- (iv) accordingly **resolves to support the Local Electricity Bill, currently supported by a cross-party group of 115 MPs, and which, if made law, would make the setup and running costs of selling renewable electricity to local customers proportionate by establishing a Right to Local Supply; and**
- (v) further resolves to ask the Leader to
  - inform the local media of this decision,
  - write to local MPs, asking them to support the Bill, and
  - write to the organisers of the campaign for the Bill, Power for People, (at 8 Delancey Passage, Camden, London NW1 7NN or [info@powerforpeople.org.uk](mailto:info@powerforpeople.org.uk)) expressing its support.

18h Homelessness Charter

Green member motion

## Original text

This Council notes that it provides significant support, directly and indirectly, to the homeless<sup>1</sup> and has an extensive policy framework but has no underlying, summary statement of those rights that it aims to protect and defend. **Council therefore agrees to adopt the following Homelessness Charter:**

1. Homelessness prevention  
Each person has the right to access the help and support they need, including access to financial, mental or physical health services, to avoid homelessness.
2. The Right to Housing  
Services supporting access to appropriate housing must be accessible to all homeless people.
3. The Right to Shelter  
Where housing cannot be immediately provided, there must be access to decent emergency accommodation for anyone finding themselves without shelter.
4. The Right to Use Public Space  
People who find themselves without a home will have the same right as others to use public space e.g. pavements, parks, public transport and public buildings.
5. The Right to Equal Treatment  
All staff and services uphold the right to equal treatment for all including those who find themselves homeless.
6. The Right to a Postal Address  
The Council shall ensure that homeless people who need one have an accessible postal address.
7. The Right to Sanitary Facilities  
The Council commits to providing access for all homeless people to basic sanitary facilities sufficient to maintain human dignity.
8. The Right to Emergency Services  
The right to emergency services (where the Council has influence) e.g. social services, health services, the police and the fire service without fear of discrimination
9. The Right to Vote  
The right to vote, to be included on the electoral register and to be given the necessary documents to prove their identity.
10. The Right to Data Protection  
Data will only be shared by public and other services with their consent and for the purposes of providing services.
11. The Right to Privacy  
The right to privacy must be respected and protected to

the fullest extent possible.

12. The Right to Survive

The right to carry out practices necessary for survival within the law. While the Council strives for a City in which such practices are not necessary, we recognise that where people have no other option they will seek support from other people or forage for discarded food to survive.

13. The Right to Respect for Personal Property

People who are homeless should have their belongings respected by everyone. They should never be damaged or thrown away or be removed without compelling need, and if they are removed they should be made available for collection without charge.

14. The Right to Life

The Council's priority is to preserve life. If a person who is homeless dies, there should be an investigation in order to understand the causes and the implications for any changes in policy or practice.

*[1] Note: The term 'homeless' is taken here to include rough sleepers as well as individuals and families who have a roof over their head but no security of tenure.*

## 19 Matters exempt from publication and exclusion of the public

If Council wishes to exclude the press and the public from the meeting during consideration of any aspects of the preceding agenda items it will be necessary for Council to pass a resolution in accordance with the provisions of Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 specifying the grounds on which their presence could involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in specific paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act if and so long as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

(The Access to Information Procedure Rules – Section 15 of the Council's Constitution – sets out the conditions under which the public can be excluded from meetings of the Council)

### **UPDATES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO SUPPLEMENT THIS AGENDA ARE PUBLISHED IN THE COUNCIL BRIEFING NOTE.**

Additional information, councillors' questions, public addresses and amendments to motions are published in a supplementary briefing note. The agenda and briefing note should be read together.

The Briefing Note is published as a supplement to the agenda. It is

available on the Friday before the meeting and can be accessed along with the agenda on the council's website.

## **Councillors declaring interests**

### **General duty**

You must declare any disclosable pecuniary interests when the meeting reaches the item on the agenda headed “Declarations of Interest” or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.

### **What is a disclosable pecuniary interest?**

Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to your\* employment; sponsorship (ie payment for expenses incurred by you in carrying out your duties as a councillor or towards your election expenses); contracts; land in the Council’s area; licenses for land in the Council’s area; corporate tenancies; and securities. These declarations must be recorded in each councillor’s Register of Interests which is publicly available on the Council’s website.

### **Declaring an interest**

Where any matter disclosed in your Register of Interests is being considered at a meeting, you must declare that you have an interest. You should also disclose the nature as well as the existence of the interest.

If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest, after having declared it at the meeting you must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

### **Members’ Code of Conduct and public perception**

Even if you do not have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter, the Members’ Code of Conduct says that a member “must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself” and that “you must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned”. What this means is that the matter of interests must be viewed within the context of the Code as a whole and regard should continue to be paid to the perception of the public.

\*Disclosable pecuniary interests that must be declared are not only those of the member her or himself but also those member’s spouse, civil partner or person they are living with as husband or wife or as if they were civil partners.