

**To: Council**  
**Date: 26 November 2018**  
**Title of Report: Motions and amendments received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.17**

Councillors are asked to debate and reach conclusions on the motions and amendment listed below in accordance with the Council's rules for debate.

The Constitution permits an hour for debate of these motions.

## Introduction

This document sets out motions received by the Head of Law and Governance in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.17 by the deadline of 1.00pm on 14 November 2018 as amended by the proposers.

All substantive amendments sent by councillors to the Head of Law and Governance by publication of the briefing note are also included below.

Unfamiliar terms are explained in the glossary or in footnotes.

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

## 1. Oxford European Charter (proposed by Councillor Tanner, seconded by Councillor Garden)

### Cross Party motion

1. Oxford City Council reaffirms its determination that Oxford should remain an international, open, and welcoming European city.
2. The Council believes that, irrespective of the outcome of the Brexit negotiations, rights of EU27 citizens who have made their homes here should be fully maintained and, that their electoral participation rights should be extended, to make our democracy more inclusive.
3. We call on the Government and all employers, institutions and authorities in Oxford to do all they can to respect, protect, and fulfil the rights to which EU27 citizens are entitled, and to ensure they are not discriminated against in any way.
4. In particular, we call for EU27 citizens living in Oxford to have rights to:
  - a. Live, work, study, and retire in the UK

- b. Enjoy a lifelong guarantee that they can leave the UK and return thereto
  - c. Retain their existing right to vote in all local government elections
  - d. Be suitably enfranchised in national elections and referendums
  - e. Be able to register for settled status without onerous proof or excessive cost
  - f. Naturalise, should they wish to do so, at the cost of administration
5. We recognise the hugely valuable contribution that migrants, from the rest of Europe and around the world, have made to our city, and are making to the culture, prosperity and success of Oxford.

Council resolves to:

1. ask the Leader of the Council to write to the Prime Minister and local MPs to convey the City Council's views as expressed above.
2. ask the City Executive Board to do whatever it can to support this Oxford European Charter.

## **2. Homelessness in Oxford (proposed by Councillor L Smith, seconded by Councillor Aziz)**

### Labour member motion

The Government's ideological pursuit of austerity has directly contributed to the soaring number of people being made homeless and sleeping rough on our streets. Despite this, Oxford City Council has an ambition that no one should have to sleep rough on the streets of our city and we have allocated our own budgets and successfully bid for government money to help achieve this.

This winter the council is providing an additional 41 bed spaces to help people off Oxford's streets. This is in addition to the 20 beds provided by the Oxford Winter Night Shelter throughout January, February and March and up to 20 extra night shelter beds which we are working with our neighbouring districts to provide through funding secured by this council.

This extra winter provision comes on top of the 167 beds and associated support for former rough sleepers which are funded throughout the year, and up to 74 bed spaces are available to anyone who needs them this winter, regardless of their connection to Oxford or their entitlement to benefits.

This council also operates a Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) which opens extra beds during periods when extended cold weather is forecast, the protocol means emergency shelters are opened when night time temperatures are forecast to drop below freezing for three consecutive nights, but there is flexibility on the decision of when to open.

This council gives thanks for the hard work of our partner organisations, charities, voluntary organisations, professional workers and volunteers. We are especially grateful to the churches hosting the Oxford Winter Night Shelter for their enormous contribution to reducing rough sleeping on our streets.

This Council therefore resolves to ask the Board Member, Leisure and Housing:

1. To continue to work towards our vision of nobody having to sleep rough on the streets on Oxford. The extra beds this winter will help us move towards that

goal, and council officers should use the discretion given to them on when to trigger SWEP to help ensure that no one is left out in freezing temperatures whenever resources allow.

2. To work with partners towards a SWEP protocol, that will open emergency provision whenever night time temperatures are forecast to fall below zero.
3. To ensure that preparations for next winter 2019/20 should include an increase in night shelter beds which are available to all rough sleepers throughout the season, moving away from the need for SWEP and adopting a model of continuous winter provision.
4. To ensure that the City Executive Board monitors the application of SWEP this winter, and receive reports, from the Head of Housing Services, in January and April 2019 to cover: the occasions when SWEP has been triggered; the use of officer discretion on when to trigger SWEP; and statistics on the availability of bed spaces for adult single homeless persons within the city for the period covered by the report.

### 3. Vehicle emissions (proposed by Councillor Harris, seconded by Councillor tbc)

Liberal Democrat member motion

#### **Original motion reads:**

This Council:

Recognises the urgent need to reduce levels of vehicle emissions in Oxford's most polluted streets,

and notes that these levels will not be significantly impacted by plans for a Zero Emission Zone until 2025 at the earliest,

and resolves to seek to reduce vehicle emissions urgently in Oxford's most polluted streets by asking the Chief Executive to write to Oxfordshire County Council inviting them to:

1. upgrade the existing bus Low Emission Zone so to require all buses within the Zone to have Euro-6 compliant engines; and
2. apply that new stricter Low Emission Zone to heavy goods vehicles and to coaches as well as to buses.

#### **Amendment proposed by Councillor Hayes**

This Council:

- *Recognises that we all have a right to breathe clean air. However, across the UK illegal and here in Oxford harmful levels of air pollution are damaging people's health and their quality of life and cutting lives short.*
- Recognises the urgent need to reduce levels of vehicle emissions in Oxford's most polluted streets *and build on the considerable success of Oxford City Council in reducing air pollution so far.*
- *and notes that local authorities are hitting the limits of what they can achieve with the powers and funding they have from Government and calls for continued advocacy to Government - with existing allies such as Greenpeace UK, Friends of the Earth (England, Wales, and Northern Ireland), UK100, and other councils – to seek more powers and funding to accelerate the journey to zero.*

- *notes that considerable work has been undertaken since the public consultation last year to fully understand the impact of the journey to zero and develop proposals which account for the feedback from directly impacted stakeholders and groups. Oxford's Zero Emission Zone has to be practical.*

- ~~and notes that these levels will not be significantly impacted by plans for a Zero Emission Zone until 2025 at the earliest,~~

and resolves to seek to reduce vehicle emissions urgently in Oxford's most polluted streets by asking the Chief Executive to write to *Oxford City Council and the highways authority Oxfordshire County Council to continue to work together in partnership on plans to introduce a Zero Emission Zone in Oxford from 2020, considering all options available, the details of which will be announced in early 2019.*

~~inviting them to:~~

- ~~1. upgrade the existing bus Low Emission Zone so to require all buses within the Zone to have Euro-6 compliant engines; and~~
- ~~2. apply that new stricter Low Emission Zone to heavy goods vehicles and to coaches as well as to buses.~~

### **Motion as amended reads:**

This Council:

- Recognises that we all have a right to breathe clean air. However, across the UK illegal and here in Oxford harmful levels of air pollution are damaging people's health and their quality of life and cutting lives short.
- Recognises the urgent need to reduce levels of vehicle emissions in Oxford's most polluted streets and build on the considerable success of Oxford City Council in reducing air pollution so far.
- and notes that local authorities are hitting the limits of what they can achieve with the powers and funding they have from Government and calls for continued advocacy to Government—with existing allies such as Greenpeace UK, Friends of the Earth (England, Wales, and Northern Ireland), UK100, and other councils—to seek more powers and funding to accelerate the journey to zero.
- notes that considerable work has been undertaken since the public consultation last year to fully understand the impact of the journey to zero and develop proposals which account for the feedback from directly impacted stakeholders and groups. Oxford's Zero Emission Zone has to be practical.

and resolves to seek to reduce vehicle emissions urgently in Oxford's most polluted streets by asking Oxford City Council and the highways authority Oxfordshire County Council to continue to work together in partnership on plans to introduce a Zero Emission Zone in Oxford from 2020, considering all options available, the details of which will be announced in early 2019.

#### **4. Farndon Court (proposed by Councillor Simmons, seconded by Councillor tbc)**

##### Green member motion

This Council notes and regrets the decision by Catalyst (a development partner of the City Council) to sell Farndon Court (which has 97 affordable, women-only accommodation units) and evict the residents.

The Council calls upon Catalyst to:

1. Replace the units with equivalent accommodation
2. Increase the compensation and support for the 69 women being evicted

The Council agrees to ask the Chief Executive to:

1. write to Catalyst expressing its views
2. review the working relationship with Catalyst and their suitability (in light of the above) as a development partner.

#### **5. Fair Transitional State Pension arrangements for 1950's women (proposed by Councillor Pressel, seconded by Councillor Kennedy)**

##### Labour member motion

Council calls upon the Government to make fair transitional state pension arrangements for all women born on or after 6th April 1950, who will unfairly carry the burden of the increase to the State Pension Age (SPA) without appropriate notification.

Hundreds of thousands of women had significant pension changes imposed on them by the Pensions Acts of 1995 and 2011 with little or no personal notification of the changes. Some women had only two years notice of a six-year increase to their state pension age.

Many women born in the 1950's are living in hardship. Retirement plans have been shattered with devastating consequences. Many of these women are already out of the labour market, caring for elderly relatives, providing childcare for grandchildren. Some suffer discrimination in the workplace, so struggle to find employment. These women have worked hard, raised families and paid their tax and national insurance with the expectation that they would be financially secure when reaching 60. It is not the pension age itself that is in dispute - it is widely accepted that women and men should retire at the same time. The issue is that the rise in the women's state pension age has been too rapid and has happened without sufficient notice being given to the women affected, leaving women with no time to make alternative arrangements.

##### **Council accordingly resolves to ask the Leader of the Council:**

to write to the Prime Minister and local MPs asking the Government to reconsider transitional arrangements for women born on or after 6th April 1950, so that women do not live in hardship due to pension changes they were not told about until it was too late to make alternative arrangements.

## **6. Oxford Cambridge Expressway (proposed by Councillor Gant, seconded by Councillor tbc)**

### Liberal Democrat member motion

Council notes that at its meeting on 25 September 2018, the Growth Board “welcomed” the principle of the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway. However, at the same meeting, the Board instructed its Chair to write to both Highways England and the Transport Minister regretting the lack of clarity around the proposal.

Council notes the tension between these two positions.

Council also notes that this lack of clarity contributes to considerable uncertainty both about how the Expressway is intended to deliver benefit, and about the possible impact on homes, lives, the environment, amenities and facilities, including in and adjacent to the greater Oxford area.

In particular, Council notes with regret that

1. It is unclear exactly what is meant by the word “Expressway” and which of the many definitions apply
2. Insufficient work has been done on the potential of enhanced rail links to deliver better outcomes for passengers, freight, and sustainable economic growth
3. Actual and proposed consultation is inadequate
4. It is unclear which of a range of possible justifications for the Expressway, which have been mentioned public and which potentially contradict each other, apply:
  - a) A ‘strategic route’ to carry freight traffic from the west and south to the east.
  - b) A route to make commuting between Oxford/Milton Keynes/Bedford/Cambridge easier and quicker.
  - c) A road that will enable significant housing growth of 1,000,000 extra houses along its length.
  - d) Relieving traffic on the A34, as one member of the Growth Board has stated publicly (which does not appear to be one of the stated aims, and current plans do not rule out using the A34 in part as the Expressway, which would of course add more traffic to it)
5. Increased road building will inevitably have a serious negative impact on air quality at a time when all public bodies must seek to use every part of their planning, investment and delivery mechanisms to achieve the opposite

Council therefore calls on the Leader, as its representative on the Growth Board, to:

- Seek urgent answers from her fellow Growth Board members on their understanding of points 1-5 above, and how that understanding makes the principle of the Expressway “welcome” in its current form
- If clear answers are not forthcoming, ask the Growth Board to withdraw its welcome for the Expressway until the Growth Board can provide those answers to Council
- Report back to this Council at the earliest opportunity

## 7. Climate Emergency (proposed by Councillor Simmons, seconded by Councillor TBC)

### Green member motion

#### **Original motion reads:**

#### Council notes:

- a) the recent 2018 IPCC report which states that we have just 12 years to act on climate change if global temperature rises are to be kept within the recommended 1.5 degreesC.
- b) that the Council's carbon emissions have reduced by approximately 10% over the last five years.
- c) last year, the Council's greenhouse gas carbon equivalent emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) reduced by 4.3%, largely due to the decarbonisation of the national electricity grid and helped by an unusually warm year - not due to any actions by the Council.
- d) The Council's underlying energy consumption actually went UP slightly - a 2.1% increase in electricity, a 0.8% increase in gas and a 5.4% increase in carbon from vehicle fuel.

#### Council notes therefore that:

1. It is failing to meet its own 5% annual greenhouse gas reduction target
2. If reductions continue at a similar rate, the Council will also fail to meet its own medium (2022) and longer term carbon reduction targets and aspirations.

In light of the above, the Council therefore agrees to resource an additional Cross-Party Scrutiny Group to urgently review and make recommendations on revisions to the Council's 2017-2022 Carbon Management Plan

\* - Source for Council figures: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report 2017-18 (Aug 2018)

#### **Amendment proposed by Councillor Simmons (proposer)**

#### Delete final paragraph

~~In light of the above, the Council therefore agrees to resource an additional Cross-Party Scrutiny Group to urgently review and make recommendations on revisions to the Council's 2017-2022 Carbon Management Plan;~~

and amend;

*In light of the above, the Council therefore agrees to:*

- *Join Councils, such as Bristol City Council, in declaring a Climate Emergency*
- *Call on Westminster to provide the powers and resources to make local action on climate change easier*
- *Resource an additional Cross-Party Scrutiny Group to urgently review and make recommendations on revisions to the Council's 2017-2022 Carbon Management Plan*
- *Continue to work with partners across the city and region to deliver widespread carbon reductions*

#### **Motion as amended by the proposer and for debate then reads:**

#### Council notes:

- a) the recent 2018 IPCC report which states that we have just 12 years to act on climate change if global temperature rises are to be kept within the recommended 1.5 degreesC.
- b) that the Council's carbon emissions have reduced by approximately 10% over the last five years.
- c) last year, the Council's greenhouse gas carbon equivalent emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) reduced by 4.3%, largely due to the decarbonisation of the national electricity grid and helped by an unusually warm year - not due to any actions by the Council.
- d) The Council's underlying energy consumption actually went UP slightly - a 2.1% increase in electricity, a 0.8% increase in gas and a 5.4% increase in carbon from vehicle fuel.

Council notes therefore that:

1. It is failing to meet its own 5% annual greenhouse gas reduction target
2. If reductions continue at a similar rate, the Council will also fail to meet its own medium (2022) and longer term carbon reduction targets and aspirations.

In light of the above, the Council therefore agrees to:

- Join Councils, such as Bristol City Council, in declaring a Climate Emergency
- Call on Westminster to provide the powers and resources to make local action on climate change easier
- Resource an additional Cross-Party Scrutiny Group to urgently review and make recommendations on revisions to the Council's 2017-2022 Carbon Management Plan
- Continue to work with partners across the city and region to deliver widespread carbon reductions

#### **Amendment proposed by Councillor Tanner**

After 'Council therefore notes that' delete 1. '~~It is failing... etc~~' and insert instead: '*The City Council has reduced its capacity for producing CO<sub>2</sub> by at least 5% in each of the last 10 years*'.

Delete all of 2. '~~If reductions... etc~~' and insert: '*Actual CO<sub>2</sub> reductions each year have varied because of factors such as the weather and the amount of renewable energy in the national grid*'

Amend the last paragraph, delete '~~resource an additional cross-Party Scrutiny Group~~' and insert: '*request Scrutiny*' and continue '*to urgently review etc*'.

#### **Motion with both amendments then reads:**

Council notes:

- a) the recent 2018 IPCC report which states that we have just 12 years to act on climate change if global temperature rises are to be kept within the recommended 1.5 degreesC.
- b) that the Council's carbon emissions have reduced by approximately 10% over the last five years.

- c) last year, the Council's greenhouse gas carbon equivalent emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) reduced by 4.3%, largely due to the decarbonisation of the national electricity grid and helped by an unusually warm year - not due to any actions by the Council.
- d) The Council's underlying energy consumption actually went UP slightly - a 2.1% increase in electricity, a 0.8% increase in gas and a 5.4% increase in carbon from vehicle fuel.

Council notes therefore that:

1. City Council has reduced its capacity for producing CO<sub>2</sub> by at least 5% in each of the last 10 years
2. Actual CO<sub>2</sub> reductions each year have varied because of factors such as the weather and the amount of renewable energy in the national grid

In light of the above, the Council therefore agrees to:

- Join Councils, such as Bristol City Council, in declaring a Climate Emergency
- Call on Westminster to provide the powers and resources to make local action on climate change easier
- request Scrutiny to urgently review and make recommendations on revisions to the Council's 2017-2022 Carbon Management Plan
- Continue to work with partners across the city and region to deliver widespread carbon reductions

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