

Cambridge City Council Notice of Council

Date: Thursday, 17 October 2019

Time: 6.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Market Square, Cambridge, CB2 3QJ

Contact: democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk, tel:01223 457000

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of Cambridge City Council will be held in the Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Market Square, Cambridge, CB2 3QJ on Thursday, 17 October 2019 at 6.00 pm and I hereby summon you to attend.

Dated 9 October 2019

Yours faithfully



Chief Executive

Agenda

- 1 Minutes (Pages 7 - 26)
- 2 Mayor's announcements
- 3 To note the Returning Officer's Report that the following has been elected to the office of Councillor
 - Newnham: Josh Matthews
- 4 Public questions time

- 5 To consider the recommendations of the Executive for adoption
- 5a Housing Revenue Account Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/20 (Executive Councillor for Housing) (Pages 27 - 118)
- 5b Review of Council Tax Reduction Scheme (Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources) (Pages 119 - 156)
- 5c Treasury Management Half Yearly Update Report 2019/20 (Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources) (Pages 157 - 176)
- 5d General Fund Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) October 2019 (Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources) (Pages 177 - 230)
- 6 To consider the recommendations of Committees for adoption
- 6a Civic Affairs Committee: Review of Officer Employment Procedure Rules (Pages 231 - 246)
- 7 To deal with oral questions
- 8 To consider the following notices of motion, notice of which has been given by:
- 9 Councillor Bick: Cutbacks in Hostel Provision For Rough Sleepers

Council welcomes the prospect of expanded "Housing First" provision for rough sleepers in Cambridge and the additional contribution it can make alongside the hostel pathway to progress rough sleepers off the streets and into mainstream accommodation. However it notes that under the current strategy, which is subject to collaboration between the city and county councils, the ongoing visiting support which is integral to Housing First is set to be funded from cutbacks to existing hostel provision.

Council believes that hostels are likely to remain the most effective provision for some rough sleepers who benefit from the structure provided and the company of others, whilst Housing First models have been shown to provide a more successful solution for some individuals who have demonstrably been unable to succeed in the hostel system. As the city's rough sleeping problem continues at a high level, additional service is clearly called for and both types of provision are likely be necessary - not one or the other.

Council notes the county council's proposal to cease funding for support services at the Willow Walk hostel, the only hostel in the city for rough sleepers with the highest level of needs. This threat is causing concern among professional practitioners, who consider that neither Housing First nor the city's other hostels will be able to meet the needs of the full number and full range of service users currently catered for at Willow Walk, leaving some extremely vulnerable individuals with no suitable housing provision at all. This is also a matter of concern to the police and the general public, who fear that the loss of this facility will increase, rather than reduce, rough sleeping and suffering in this city. This concern is further increased given the prospect that the building, owned by Riverside Housing, could be redeployed to accommodate homeless people from London and other areas.

Accordingly, council calls on the county council to set aside any decisions, tentative or otherwise, to withdraw funding for any hostels for rough sleepers, until it has completed and published a full needs analysis of this client group and gained agreement on a clear vision for overall provision embracing innovation such as Housing First, where appropriate.

10 Councillor McGerty: Recycling Centres

Council notes the high level of fly tipping around the city and the recent withdrawal of dry mixed recycling facilities from seven of the city's neighbourhood recycling points.

Council calls on the Executive Councillor to institute an urgent review of the relationship between the recycling centres and fly tipping and to consider whether fuller recycling services and more frequent collection might be a better approach – and to bring the results to the scrutiny committee.

Info: List of sites where dry mixed recycling has been withdrawn. Arbury Court, Cherry Hinton Hall, Coldham's Lane, Colville Road, Gwydir Street, Hauxton Road (Waitrose), Newmarket Road (Tesco).

11 Councillor Martinelli: Cambridge Cycle Point Thefts

Council notes the consistently high level of unprosecuted cycle theft at Cambridge Rail Station Cycle Point, with over 100 reported episodes in the last year of publicly available crime statistics having led to no subsequent prosecutions. Council further notes that this is likely an under-representation of the total number of criminal acts in the area and that CCTV gives users a false sense of security when, in reality, the images are not monitored, nor have they proved useful in identifying thieves.

Council affirms that, in light of the Climate Emergency, it is committed to encouraging cycling as a sustainable form of transit and is not prepared to let organised crime undermine its transport strategy.

Council will therefore:

1) Write to Greater Anglia as operators of the Cycle Point to request urgent action aimed at ensuring that rail users' property is protected, including dramatically increasing security patrol frequency.

2) Write to the Chief Constable of Cambridgeshire Constabulary to request targeted enforcement given the recurrent and relatively predictable nature of the crimes involved.

3) Ask Officers to consider the possibility of planning enforcement measures against Greater Anglia Railways for not providing sufficient security of the Cycle Point premises

12 Councillor Collis: Food Poverty

Council notes the rise in food poverty both nationally and in Cambridge, where the Cambridge City Food Bank distributed 8,766 3 day emergency food parcels to people in crisis last year, an increase of 36% from 2017. Nationally, food bank usage has now risen above 1 million.

Council notes with thanks the excellent work being done by officers across the city to tackle the impact of this trend, including;

- developing a programme of holiday lunches that in 2018/9 provided 2737 free meals
- supporting 51 cookery skills sessions (2018/9) attended by 271 local residents
- continuing to develop a robust, evidence-based anti-poverty strategy to tackle the underlying causes of food poverty and insecurity
- promotion of the Living Wage

We also welcome the strength of partnership working in line with our Sustainable Food Policy. This is particularly evident within the Food Poverty Alliance established by Cambridge Sustainable Food, which incorporates the council, Cambridge city foodbank, housing providers,

sports clubs, local churches and other frontline organisations providing community meals, emergency food provision and advice.

We note the publication of the alliance's comprehensive action plan listing a package of preventative and crisis measures, and five main aims;

1. to ensure children's access to food 365 days a year
2. to ensure there is emergency support so that people in Cambridge do not go hungry
3. aim to tackle the underlying causes of food poverty in Cambridge
4. to promote and support community responses to food poverty
5. to monitor and evaluate the extent of food poverty in Cambridge

At a national level, this council;

- is concerned that in the event of a No Deal Brexit, there will be a significant impact both on our short-term food security and any longer term work to establish a sustainable food strategy for the UK.
- welcomes UK Labour's pledge to introduce a Fair Food Act, creating a legal right to food, and their aim to halve food bank usage in their first year in government.

Cambridge City Council therefore resolves to;

- fully endorse the Food Poverty Alliance's action plan and continue to work in partnership with local agencies to tackle food poverty in our city, and its underlying causes.
- call on our local MPs to support Sue Hayman MP's proposals for a Fair Food Act.

13 Written questions

No discussion will take place on this item. Members will be asked to note the written questions and answers document as circulated around the Chamber.

Information for the public

The public may record (e.g. film, audio, tweet, blog) meetings which are open to the public. For details go to:

www.cambridge.gov.uk/have-your-say-at-committee-meetings

For full information about committee meetings, committee reports, councillors and the democratic process:

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