

# Cambridge City Council

## Notice of Council

**Date:** Thursday, 26 May 2022

**Time:** 11.00 am

**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, 26 May 2022 at 11.00 am and I hereby summon you to attend.

Dated 18 May 2022

Yours faithfully

Robert Pollock

Chief Executive

### Agenda

- 1 To Elect a Mayor for the Municipal Year 2022/23
- 2 To Elect a Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2022/23
- 3 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on the 24 February and 3 March 2022 (Pages 11 - 44)
- 4 To Note the Returning Officer's Report that the following have been Elected to the Office of Councillor  
Abbey – Matt Howard  
Arbury – Iva Divkovic

Arbury – Patrick Sheil  
Castle – Simon Smith  
Cherry Hinton – Russ McPherson  
Coleridge – Anna Smith  
East Chesterton – Baiju Thittala Varkey  
King’s Hedges - Martin Smart  
Market - Katie Porrer  
Newnham – Cameron Holloway  
Petersfield - Richard Robertson  
Queen Edith’s - Daniel Lee  
Romsey - Dinah Pounds  
Trumpington - Olaf Hauk  
West Chesterton – Sam Carling  
West Chesterton – Richard Swift

- 5 To Pass a Resolution of Thanks to the Outgoing Mayor
- 6 Mayor's announcements
- 7 To Elect from among the Members of the Council Four Bailiffs of the City for the Municipal Year 2022/23
- 8 To consider the recommendations of Committees for adoption
- 8a Civic Affairs Committee - Committee Appointments and Constitutional Changes (Pages 45 - 52)  
Recommendations for committee sizes and chair/vice-chair appointments to follow.
- 9 Annual Statements  
Group Leaders will each have the opportunity to speak for not more than 10 minutes on their Group’s priorities for action and objectives for the forthcoming municipal year in the following order:  
  
Councillor Anna Smith  
Councillor Bick  
Councillor Bennett
- 10 Public questions time
- 11 To deal with oral questions
- 12 To consider the following notices of motion, notice of which has been given by:
- 12a Councillor Copley - Plant-based food

Cambridge City Council declared climate and biodiversity emergencies in 2019, and shared a vision for Cambridge to be Net Zero by 2030. Furthermore, Cambridge City Council has developed a Sustainable Food Policy Statement (in response to an earlier motion by Cllr Oscar Gillespie), and Cambridge Sustainable Food, in which Cambridge City Council is a partner, has been awarded Silver status by Sustainable Food Places and recently announced it is working towards Gold status.

It is increasingly recognised that meat and dairy production is a significant contributor to climate breakdown, with the livestock sector accounting for 14% of global greenhouse gas emissions, as well as being a major contributor to global deforestation. The catastrophic effects of climate breakdown mean climate and risk experts predict a world with systemic cascading risks related to food insecurity including food shortages, societal tensions, hunger and malnutrition, unrest and conflict (according to a Chatham house report from 2021), which furthermore predicts a 50% chance of synchronous crop failure in the decade of the 2040s.

As well as a smaller carbon footprint, eating more plant-based foods also reduces the land footprint of our diets and would improve UK food security and self-sufficiency, thereby making our diets more local. We currently import much more food than we export. Meat and dairy is our second biggest food group trade deficit (£4.2 billion pounds a year); we also have a £1.3 billion pound trade deficit in animal feed. In the UK less than 40% of our cereals are eaten by people and almost 60% are fed to livestock: this is a huge food waste issue. East Anglia is predominantly arable farming and there are many local predominantly plant-based food businesses we could support.

The Government commissioned National Food Strategy (July 2021) recommended meat consumption should be reduced by 30% to help food security for future generations, and the Government's independent Climate Change Committee recommended that public bodies should lead the way by promoting plant-based food options. Over 40% of Britons are trying to reduce their meat consumption and 14% already follow a flexitarian diet, but plant-based food options are

not consistently available at all events nor food venues. Other countries have taken a stance, for example in Portugal it is a legal requirement for all public catering – including local authority facilities – to provide plant-based food options, and other local authorities such as Oxfordshire County Council have decided to promote plant-based food via serving a fully plant-based menu at Council meetings and events. Locally, the University of Cambridge Catering Service reduced food-related greenhouse gas emissions by a third via replacing beef and lamb with plant-based products.

It is therefore important that Cambridge City Council builds on its achievements to date and leads by example to promote and normalise consumption of plant-based food, recognising that plant-based meals are frequently nutritious and low cost food options. This is in line with its vision for Cambridge City to be net-zero carbon by 2030.

Council therefore resolves to:

1. Transition to fully plant-based catering for future Council meetings where food is served, ensuring that this is cheaper or the same cost.
2. Investigate fully the practicalities of using Cambridge City Council Civic events to promote and showcase plant-based food options, alongside displayed information about the climate benefits and relative cost of different protein/food sources. After engaging with a wide variety of catering options (including consideration of social enterprises), bring a costed report of fully plant-based catering options for Civic events to an Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee within 6 months.
3. Ensure that there are plant-based food options available at all City Council run events which involve catering (ie minimum from at least one caterer), where reasonably possible.
4. When events occur on City Council open spaces, and where catering is provided, ensure that plant-based options are available (ie minimum from at least one caterer), secured through the use of terms and conditions of hire (where reasonably possible).
5. Secure through a contract specification when re-tendering for suppliers that plant-based food and drink options are to be

available at kiosks on City Council open spaces and Council run cafes (where reasonably possible). Similarly when possible, via future contract specification when re-tendering for suppliers for Council run cafes, specify that vegetable/legume rich plant-based options are listed prominently on menus, above non plant-based options (e.g. jacket potato and baked beans or tomato pasta would be listed above burger and chips).

6. Continue to work with Cambridge Sustainable Food to promote sustainable (and affordable) food practices throughout the city.

## 12b Councillor Bennett - Abusive Practices Against the LGBTIQ+ Community Motion

### Background

- 1 In October 2020, Cambridge City Council unanimously passed a comprehensive motion supporting trans rights (see notes section at end of motion)
- 2 That motion was brought because of the failure of the conservative government to keep its promises to reform the Gender Recognition Act to protect trans rights.
- 3 Once again, the conservative government is failing to keep its promises to the LGBTIQ+ community
- 4 In their 2018 manifesto, the conservatives promised to legislate to end the abusive practices popularly but incorrectly known as conversion therapy on LGBTIQ+ people.
- 5 Since then, there have been a number of U turns on this subject. The latest position as set out in the 10 May 2022 Queen's Speech is an unsatisfactory proposal which excludes trans people completely and contains a number of provisions which would make it difficult and expensive to enforce.
- 6 In the circumstances, it seems fitting for this council to take a stand and re-affirm its support for trans rights and a full ban on the abusive practices commonly known as "conversion therapy"
- 7 It should be noted that the council's support is not confined to words and it is proposed that we take a moment to record the actions taken by the council to support the LGBTIQ+ community since our October 2020 motion.

## The Motion

- 1 This council continues to stand by its original 2020 declaration that trans rights are human rights.
- 2 It calls upon the government to restore its manifesto promise to introduce a full “conversion therapy” ban at the earliest possible opportunity and instructs the council to write to Elizabeth Truss, Equalities Minister to that effect
- 3 The council also wishes to list upon the public record the following steps that it has taken to promote fairness for the LGBTIQ+ community since October 2020:
  - a. Annual briefings for staff and councillors on transgender awareness
  - b. Financial support for charities and community organisations
  - c. Participation in LGBTIQ+ community events such as LGBT+ history month
  - d. Partnering with LGBTIQ+ community organisations such as Kite Trust and Encompass Network

## The Notes

- 1 So called conversion “therapy” encompasses all attempts to change a person’s sexual/romantic orientation and/or gender identity or to change a person’s asexual or aromatic orientation or agender identity.
- 2 According to a 2009 Scientific American survey , "One in 25 British psychiatrists and psychologists say they would be willing to help homosexual and bisexual patients try to convert to heterosexuality, even though there is no compelling scientific evidence a person can willfully become straight", and explained that 17% of those surveyed said they had tried to help reduce or suppress homosexual feelings, and 4% said they would try to help homosexual people convert to heterosexuality in the future”
- 3 All major psychotherapy bodies have signed a 2018 NHS memorandum condemning conversion therapy. However, a 2018 government survey revealed that 1 in 20 LGBTIQ+ Britons had been offered conversion therapy

and that 1 in 50 had been subjected to it. The figures for the Trans Community are higher at 1 in 5.

- 4 Survivors have been left feeling suicidal. In some cases, physical as well as mental harm has been involved.
- 5 Although the 2018 NHS memorandum is very clear, it does not have legal force. Moreover, it is unlikely to be regarded by unlicensed practitioners or other groups.

Appendix Text of original council Motion October 2020

### **Trans rights are human rights: Council motion**

At the [Council meeting on 22 October 2020](#), councillors passed a joint party motion titled 'Trans rights are human rights'.

The full text of the motion is below:

#### **Trans Rights are Human Rights**

Trans women are women. Trans men are men. Non-binary individuals are non-binary. We believe in the dignity of all people and their right to respect and equality of opportunity. We value the strength that comes with difference and the positive contribution that diversity brings to our community. Our aspiration is for Cambridge and the wider region to be safe, welcoming and inclusive.

The Council notes:

1. The failure of the Tory Government to keep its promise to reform the gender recognition act, claiming that these reforms are not a priority for the trans community, despite overwhelming support from that community to de-medicalise the process, remove the spousal veto, and allow non-binary individuals to gain legal recognition.
2. The concerning number of reported hate crimes against LGBTQIA+ people, with hate crime against trans people having quadrupled in the last 5 years.
3. The strong partnership the council has had with LGBTQIA+ groups in the city, including the Kite Trust, Dhiverse, the Encompass Network and Cambridge Pride and the desire to continue to build and develop these relationships as part of our equality work.
4. Council's support for LGBTQIA+ initiatives including:
  - . participation in schemes such as the Encompass Network Safe Spaces initiative,

- i. financial support to LGBTQIA+ groups through the grants programme, with grants of £23,500 in the period 2020/21,
  - ii. LGBT+ History Month and Cambridge Pride,
  - iii. arranging awareness training for staff and councillors.
5. That despite many positive initiatives there is always more to do to ensure that we are a genuinely supportive, inclusive and welcoming city.
6. Our commitment to the Black Lives Matters movement, and our recognition that LGBT+ people of colour face particular challenges and prejudices.

This Council therefore resolves to:

- Recognise that it should be up to LGBTQIA+ groups to decide what flag is flown to represent them, continue to consult with all LGBTQIA+ community support and voluntary groups within the city about flying the Progress Pride Flag, at every occasion where the Pride flag would previously have been flown. This also represents LGBTQIA+ people of colour, in line with our commitment to supporting the BLM movement.
- State publicly that trans rights are human rights and affirm the legal rights of all protected groups under the 2010 equality act.
- Facilitate and strongly encourage all councillors to attend relevant training, such as Safer Spaces and trans awareness training.
- Fly the trans flag on international trans day of visibility (March 31st) and international trans day of remembrance (November 20th)
- Look into what we can do as a council to further promote our equality pledge and to raise awareness of the community grants fund amongst LGBTQIA+ groups.
- Recommit to ensuring a welcoming, inclusive, and respectful relationship with all groups recognised under The Equality Act as having protected characteristics, and to reviewing what additional work can be done to support all these groups as part of the upcoming review of the Single Equalities Scheme. And recommit to doing this in an environment of kindness, compassion and mutual respect.



12c Councillor Bick - Marketing of homes to international property investors

Council requests the Executive Councillor for Transformation, Finance & Resources by all feasible means to bring a rapid end to the practice of marketing new homes in which the council has a financial interest to overseas property investors; and replace it with an unlimited 100% local marketing strategy, focused on those wanting to live and/or work in Cambridge, regardless of country of origin.

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

- Website: <http://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk>
- Email: [democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk)
- Phone: 01223 457000

## Public health and well-being for meeting arrangements

This Meeting will be live streamed to the Council's YouTube page. Those wishing to address the meeting will also be able to do so virtually via Microsoft Teams. Given the ambition to limit numbers of people attending the meeting in person to reduce the risk of infections, we would encourage members of the public who wish to address the Committee to do so virtually.

Should you have to attend in person, we encourage you to maintain your face covering unless you are exempt or when speaking at the meeting. Hand sanitiser will be available on entry to the meeting.

If members of the public wish to address the committee either virtually or in person, you must contact Democratic Services [democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk) by 12 noon two working days before the meeting.