



**LANCASTER**  
**CITY COUNCIL**

*Promoting City, Coast & Countryside*

# **COUNCIL MEETING**

**Wednesday, 25 September 2019 -  
6.00 p.m.  
Morecambe Town Hall**

*Lancaster City Council welcomes members of the public to attend meetings. However, space in the public gallery is limited to 30 seats due to Fire Regulations. The seats are allocated on a first come, first served basis and no standing is permitted. If you require support in accessing the building, please contact Democratic Services on 01524 582132, or email [democracy@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@lancaster.gov.uk)*

Kieran Keane,  
Chief Executive,  
Town Hall,  
Dalton Square,  
LANCASTER,  
LA1 1PJ



# LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL

*Promoting City, Coast & Countryside*

Sir/Madam,

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Lancaster City Council to be held in the Town Hall, Morecambe on Wednesday, 25 September 2019 commencing at 6.00 p.m. for the following purposes:

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

2. **MINUTES**

To receive as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the City Council held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019 (previously circulated).

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive declarations by Councillors of interests in respect of items on this Agenda.

Councillors are reminded that, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. (It is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting).

Whilst not a legal requirement, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9 and in the interests of clarity and transparency, Councillors should declare any disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared in the Register, at this point in the meeting.

In accordance with Part B Section 2 of the Code Of Conduct, Councillors are required to declare the existence and nature of any other interests as defined in paragraphs 8(1) or 9(2) of the Code of Conduct.

4. **ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

5. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To receive any announcements which may be submitted by the Mayor or Chief Executive.

6. **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 11**

To receive questions in accordance with the provisions of Council Procedure Rules 11.1 and 11.3 which require members of the public to give at least 3 days' notice in writing of questions to a Member of Cabinet or Committee Chairman.

7. **PETITIONS AND ADDRESSES**

To receive any petitions and/or addresses from members of the public which have been notified to the Chief Executive in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

8. **LEADER'S REPORT** (Pages 1 - 3)

To receive the Cabinet Leader's report on proceedings since the last meeting of Council.

**REPORTS REFERRED FROM CABINET, COMMITTEES OR OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

9. **EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS**

Report of the Leader is to follow.

**MOTIONS ON NOTICE**

10. **MOTION ON NOTICE - VOTER ID PILOTS** (Pages 4 - 5)

To consider the motion to be proposed by Councillor Jack O'Dwyer-Henry. Seconded by Councillors Erica Lewis, Jason Wood.

*"This Council notes that:*

- *Of the 44.6 million votes cast in UK elections in 2017, there was just one conviction resulting from the 28 allegations of in-person voter fraud.*
- *After the May 2018 Voter ID pilots, the Electoral Reform Society concluded that the introduction of Voter ID is "a sledge hammer to crack a nut".*
- *In 2018, Electoral Commission research found that about 7.5% of the electorate do not have access to any form of photo ID.*
- *That young people, older people, people with disabilities, trans people, BAME communities and the homeless would especially be negatively impacted by a requirement to produce photo ID to cast a vote.*
- *Over 1,100 people have been denied a vote in local government elections due to the 2018 and 2019 Voter ID pilots.*

*This Council believes that introducing mandatory Voter ID would undermine our democracy.*

*Therefore, this Council resolves to not participate in any Voter ID pilots for any elections in our District.*

*And this Council further resolves to instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Cabinet Office to express this Council's opposition to the introduction of mandatory Voter ID in any UK elections."*

An officer briefing note is attached.

11. **MOTION ON NOTICE - SKERTON COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL**

To consider the motion to be proposed by Councillor Sandra Thornberry. Seconded by

Councillors Philip Black, Jean Parr, Mandy King, Abbott Bryning and Robert Redfern.

*“As the 5 year anniversary of the closure of Skerton Community High School passes, Council reflects on the continued dispossession and dereliction of these premises in the heart of our urban community.*

*Skerton Community High School had offered a site for education and a focal point for the community in north Lancaster since the mid 1930’s. The High School was closed and has stood empty since 31<sup>st</sup> August 2014. The buildings are becoming increasingly dilapidated and are understood to contain hazardous materials such as asbestos.*

*The land and buildings in question are owned and managed by Lancashire County Council, who have been unwilling or unable to indicate their intentions for the future of the site.*

*This Council believes that the site has massive potential to be used once again primarily for educational purposes, and possibly also as a hub for the community, to promote health and wellbeing, sports, environment, and provide a local economic boost for residents in North of Lancaster.*

*Council therefore resolves to;*

- 1. Call upon Lancashire County Council to bring the site back into regular use, possibly for a plurality of uses, but certainly education again as soon as possible.*
- 2. To actively seek out, and support potential partners/occupiers of the site in their dealings with Lancashire County Council.*
- 3. To liaise with Lancashire County Council in trying to identify potential partners and uses for the site, such as provision for children with EHCP’s (Education and Health Care Plan), a city centre campus for a university, a technical college, a community centre, woodland or town green.*
- 4. To liaise with Lancashire County Council (or other 3<sup>rd</sup> parties utilising the site) to ensure any renovations or developments comply with our ‘ambitions’, in particular in terms of local procurement, employment standards and the climate emergency declaration.”*

## **12. MOTION ON NOTICE - NO DEAL BREXIT**

To consider the motion to be proposed by Councillor Philip Black. Seconded by Councillors Oliver Robinson, Jack O'Dwyer Henry, Jean Parr and Sandra Thornberry.

***“This council notes that;***

*The UK is scheduled to leave the European Union on 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2019.*

*Parliamentary legislation has been passed that seeks to diminish the likelihood of a No-Deal Brexit.*

*Despite this the Government is determined that we should exit the EU by any means, regardless of consequences, therefore a No-Deal Brexit remains a very real possibility.*

*Preparations for the impact of a No-Deal Brexit in this authority area are being conducted by the disaster and emergency planning body – the Lancashire Resilience Forum.*

*According to The Institute for Government, advice from the Local Government Association, and crucially the Government's own publicly available guidance papers - residents in our district can anticipate difficulty and disruption affecting:*

- *Heysham Port (as part of the UK border, customs and movement of people)*
- *Higher Education Institutions (research funding, income from EU students' fees)*
- *Nuclear Power Stations (importing plutonium & uranium radioactive fuel products)*
- *NHS Services (availability of medicines, staffing and waiting times for procedures)*
- *Businesses in the following sectors: Food and Drink (including school meals), Manufacturing, Farming, Agriculture, Animals, Fisheries, Forestry, Legal & Professional Services, Charities & Voluntary Organisations, Construction, Environmental, Defence, Energy, Entertainment, Arts, Culture & Heritage, Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, Health & Social Care, Telecoms and Information Services, Chemicals, Mining, Public Administration, Retail, Tourism & Hospitality, Couriers and Shipping Services. Especially where these businesses import/export, hire staff from the EU or have employees who need to travel or work in the EU.*

***This Council believes that;***

*Taken as a whole, and based on the Government's own advice papers, it reasonable to infer that a No-Deal Brexit will have a detrimental impact on our authority district, its businesses, communities and residents.*

*A No-Deal Brexit is highly likely to expose the Council to additional challenges, costs and pressures.*

*Opposing a No-Deal Brexit is the right and proper stance for this authority to adopt.*

*The Government should respect the will of Parliament and rule out the possibility of a no-deal Brexit.*

***This Council resolves that;***

*The Chief Executive of the Council will write to the Brexit Minister, the Minister for Local Government and the Prime Minister. The letter will outline our concerns, explain our position and call for the Government to take whatever steps are necessary to categorically rule out the possibility of a No-Deal Brexit."*

*An officer briefing note is to follow.*

**13. MOTION ON NOTICE - A FULLY FUNDED, PROPER PAY RISE FOR COUNCIL WORKERS**

To consider the motion to be proposed by Councillor Jason Wood. Seconded by Erica Lewis, Jack O'Dwyer-Henry Robert Redfern and Faye Penny.

*"Lancaster City Council notes:*

1. *Local Government overall has endured central government funding cuts of nearly 50% since 2010.*

2. *Between 2010 and 2020, Lancaster City Council will have lost 54p out of every £1 they have received from central government.*
3. *The 2019 Local Government Association (LGA) survey of council finances found that 1 in 3 councils fear they will run out of funding to provide even their statutory, legal duties by 2022/23. This number rises to almost two thirds of councils by 2024/2025 or later.*
4. *The LGA estimates councils will face a funding gap of £8 billion by 2025.*
5. *Faced with these cuts from central government, the local government workforce has endured years of pay restraint with the majority of pay points losing 22 per cent of their value since 2009/10.*
6. *At the same time as seeing their pay go down in real terms, workers experience ever increasing workloads and persistent job insecurity. Across the UK, an estimated 876,000 jobs have been lost in local government since June 2010 – a reduction of 30 per cent. Local government has arguably been hit by more severe job losses than any other part of the public sector.*
7. *There has been a disproportionate impact on women, with women making up more than three quarters of the local government workforce.*

*Lancaster City Council believes:*

1. *Our public service workers are a valuable resource. They keep our communities clean, look after those in need and keep our towns and cities running.*
2. *Without the professionalism and dedication of our staff, the council services our residents rely on would not be deliverable.*
3. *Government funding has been cut to such an extent that a proper pay rise could result in a reduction in local government services.*
4. *The government needs to take responsibility and fully fund increases in pay; it should not put the burden on local authorities whose funding been cut to the bone.*

*Lancaster City Council resolves to:*

1. *Support the pay claim submitted by GMB UNISON and Unite on behalf of council workers for a:*
  - a. *£10 per hour minimum wage and a 10 per cent uplift across all other pay points in 2020/21,*
  - b. *one day increase to the minimum paid annual leave entitlement set out in the Green Book,*
  - c. *two hour reduction in the standard working week as set out in the Green Book, and*
  - d. *comprehensive joint national review of the workplace causes of stress and mental ill-health throughout local authorities*
2. *Call on the Local Government Association to make urgent representations to central government to fund the NJC pay claim*
3. *Request the Council Chief Executive write to the Chancellor and Secretary of State to call for a pay increase for local government workers to be funded with new money from central government.*
4. *Request the Cabinet member for Resources meets with local NJC union representatives to convey support for the pay claim.*
5. *Encourage all local government workers across the district to join a union.”*

*An officer briefing note is to follow.*

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

14. **APPOINTMENT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER AND ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICER** (Pages 6 - 8)

Report of the Democratic Services Manager

15. **REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES 2019** (Pages 9 - 43)

Report of the Chief Executive

16. **APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES** (Pages 44 - 45)

Report of the Democratic Services Manager

17. **APPOINTMENTS AND CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

Group Administrators to report any changes to Committee Membership.

18. **QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12**

To receive questions in accordance with the provisions of Council Procedure Rules 12.2 and 12.4 which require a Member to give at least 3 working days' notice, in writing, of the question to the Chief Executive.

19. **MINUTES OF CABINET** (Pages 46 - 65)

To receive the approved Minutes of Meeting of the Cabinet held on 6<sup>th</sup> August and the draft minutes of the Cabinet meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019, which will be considered for approval at the next Cabinet meeting.



.....  
Chief Executive

Town Hall,  
Dalton Square,  
LANCASTER,  
LA1 1PJ

Published on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019.