
SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
16 MAY 2012

Present:

The Mayor, Councillor Burke
The Sheriff, Councillor White
Councillors Baillie, Barnes-Andrews, Mrs Blatchford, Bogle, Chaloner, Claisse, Cunio, Daunt, Fitzhenry, Furnell, Hannides, B Harris, L Harris, Kaur, Inglis, Jeffery, Keogh, Kolker, Laming, Letts, Lewzey, Lloyd, Mead, McEwing, Mintoff, Morrell, Moulton, Noon, Norris, Dr Paffey, Parnell, Payne, Pope, Rayment, Shields, Smith, Spicer, Stevens, Thomas, Thorpe, Tucker, Turner, Vassiliou, Vinson, Whitbread and Dr R Williams

1. ELECTION OF MAYOR

RESOLVED upon the motion of Councillor Rayment, seconded by Councillor Smith and supported by Councillor Vinson, that Councillor Burke be elected to the Office of 790th Mayor of Southampton and Chair of the Council for the ensuing year.

The Mayor (Councillor Burke) then made and subscribed to the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR BURKE) IN THE CHAIR

2. MAYOR'S CHARITIES

The Mayor announced that he would be supporting Two Saints and Headway charities during his term of office.

3. APPOINTMENT OF SHERIFF

RESOLVED upon the motion of Councillor Fitzhenry, seconded by Councillor Payne and supported by Councillor Vinson, that Councillor White be appointed the 575th Sheriff of the City of Southampton and Vice-Chair of the Council for the ensuing year.

The Sheriff (Councillor White) then made and subscribed to the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

4. VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING MAYOR

RESOLVED upon the motion of Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Kaur and supported by Councillor Vinson, that the Council places on record its appreciation for the distinguished manner in which Councillor Matthews had discharged the duties of the Mayor of the City during the period of his term of office.

5. SOUTHAMPTON BUSINESS SUCCESS AWARDS 2012

RESOLVED upon the motion of the Mayor (Councillor Burke) and seconded by the Sheriff (Councillor White) that the Southampton Business Success Award be presented to Jamie Green and Marion Hillcrest from Hillcrest Construction Company.

6. PRESENTATION OF MEDALS TO RETIRING COUNCILLORS

RESOLVED upon the motion of the Mayor (Councillor Burke) and seconded by the Sheriff (Councillor White), that medals be presented to former Councillors Ball, Cappozzoli, Drake, Fitzgerald, Fuller, Holmes, Jones, Matthews, Osmond, Walker, Wells, Willacy and Phil Williams in recognition of their service to the City Council.

**AT THE RECONVENED MEETING OF THE SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL HELD
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE ON 16TH MAY, 2012**

7. APOLOGIES

It was noted that no apologies had been received.

8. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 14th March, 2012 be approved and signed as a correct record.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

- (i) Members stood for a moment's silence in remembrance of Celia Fraser, a former colleague and supportive and loyal Member of staff.
- (ii) The Mayor thanked all Members for their support in electing him as Mayor. In order for the meeting to run efficiently and effectively, he asked Members to keep in mind throughout the year the basic courtesies needed to be adhered to for this to happen; timeliness both in arriving at the meeting and when speaking; speaking to the point, and listening carefully to the arguments. He also asked Members to remember the courtesies they would like from members when they were speaking and to extend those to others.
- (iii) The Mayor announced he would be undertaking a trial (for about 6 months) on the use of mobile electronic devices in the Chamber and in Committee Meetings.

The Mayor would retain the right to vary this, without notice, if he considered it was being abused and vested the same right in the Chairs of Committees and Sub-Committees.

For the trial period, he proposed that handheld electronic devices (including laptops, phones, IPADs etc) might be used in the Council Chamber, provided they were silent and used in a way that did not impair decorum. Members making speeches in the Council Chamber or in any committee meeting may refer to electronic devices in place of paper speaking notes. Electronic devices may be used silent in the Chamber and in committee meetings, but the restrictions on using cameras/recording equipment, or on any electronic device ringing remained in place.

In terms of usage, social media and activities such as “twittering”, the Mayor indicated that he would not nor would any Chair of a Committee be policing tweeting. The Mayor / Chair would not be expected to respond on allegations that inappropriate as compared to appropriate tweeting had or was taking place. Instead, he urged Members to use their good sense and behave with courtesy, particularly in not tweeting messages which would otherwise be in breach of our rules or the law. For example, tweeting material discussed in confidential session would be a serious breach.

The Mayor finally reminded members to switch to silent all electronic mobile devices including their mobile phones and that any noises such as ringing would incur an instant fine.

10. ELECTION OF THE LEADER

The nomination of Councillor Dr. Williams was moved and seconded.

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE IT WAS:

RESOLVED that Councillor Dr. Williams be elected as Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.

Following his election as Leader, Councillor Dr. Williams informed the Council of his Cabinet and their Portfolio responsibilities.

Deputy Leader – Councillor Rayment

Adult Services – Councillor Stevens

Children’s Services - Councillor Bogle

Communities – Councillor Rayment

Efficiency and Improvement - Councillor Morrell

Environment and Transport – Councillor Thorpe

Housing and Leisure Services – Councillor Payne

Resources - Councillor Letts

The Leader then circulated details of the contents of each of the Portfolios and announced that these would be incorporated into the scheme of Executive Delegation in the Constitution (copy appended to signed minutes).

11. LOCALISM ACT - REVISED STANDARDS ARRANGEMENTS

The report of the Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services was submitted detailing changes to the standards regime brought about by the Localism Act 2011 (copy of report circulated with the agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) That delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services to:-
 - (a) Prepare a Code of Conduct based upon a draft that is currently being prepared by the Association of Council Secretaries and Solicitors (ACSeS) and that this is considered by the Standards and Governance Committee prior to it being presented to Council for adoption;
 - (b) advertise for and appoint two Designated Independent Persons;
 - (c) appoint two independent co-opted members from the current appointees to serve on the proposed Governance Committee on standards issues only from 1st July 2012.

- (ii) That once the new standards regime comes into force:
 - (a) the role of the current Audit Committee be extended to one of overall governance to be called the "Governance Committee" in accordance with the draft terms of reference, as attached at appendix 1 to the report and from which (i) Standards Sub- Committee and (ii) Standards Appeals Sub-Committee be formed;
 - (b) that both the Standards and Appeals Sub-Committees consist of three Members, politically balanced, together with one co-opted and non voting independent member (as (c) above) to deal with any Code of Conduct issues that may be referred to it by the Monitoring Officer and that they have the terms of reference as attached at appendix 2 to the report;
 - (c) that delegated authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer, after consultation with a Designated Independent Person, to where appropriate (i) determine whether a complaint in relation to Member misconduct merits formal investigation (ii) refuse to accept complaints that are trivial, vexatious, repetitive or political and at his discretion to refer such decisions on investigation to the Standards Sub-Committee (iii) agree local settlements;
 - (d) delegate to both the Standards and Appeals Sub-Committees power to take such actions as it lawfully can in respect of a Member who is found to have failed to comply with the Code of Conduct;
 - (e) delegates to both the Monitoring Officer and Standards Sub- Committee the authority to grant dispensations under the Act;
 - (f) that the Designated Independent Persons be paid an annual retainer of £645.00 each and that this be reviewed and agreed after the first year of

operation by the Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services after consultation with the Leader of the Council;
(g) that the current Code remain in place until a revised code of conduct is adopted by Council; and

- (iii) That once further clarification has been received regarding the remaining detail of the revised standards regime including the role of the Designated Independent Person, a further report is presented setting out the position relating to that appointment.

12. HAMPSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL - PANEL ARRANGEMENTS

The report of the Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services was submitted seeking approval for the arrangements of the Hampshire Police and Crime Panel (copy of report circulated and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the recommended terms on which the Police and Crime Panel should be established be endorsed;
- (ii) That subject to resolution (iii) below, the Panel arrangements in Appendix 1 to the report be approved;
- (iii) That the Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services be granted delegated authority to agree any further minor amendments to the Panel arrangements necessary to ensure statutory compliance, once the Home Secretary's regulations and guidance have been published;
- (iv) That a member be appointed as the Council's Appointed Member to serve on the Panel; and
- (v) That a member be identified to act as "Deputy Member" and, where the Appointed Member is temporarily unable to attend a Panel meeting or otherwise undertake Panel business, the Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services be authorised to give notice of temporary change of membership for a period of up to 28 days, to enable the Deputy Member to deputise in the Appointed Member's absence.

13. CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION

The report of the Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services, was submitted seeking approval for changes to the City Council's Constitution (copy of report circulated with the agenda and appended to signed minutes).

Amendment moved by Councillor Letts and seconded by Councillor Dr Williams:

Add Additional Recommendation (iv)

- (iv) in relation to financial decisions all expenditure over £125,000 shall be made by the relevant Cabinet Member, over £250,000 by the Cabinet and £2,000,000 by full Council except in respect of matters identified in (v) below.

Specifically in relation to the Financial Procedure Rules Cabinet Member/Cabinet authority will be required for the following:-

Virements and Grant Income

- A10 (iii) – The virement limit shall be reduced from £200,000 to £125,000
- A10 (iv) – One off virement limit reduced from £200,000 to £125,000
- A10 (v) – Cumulative total of virements limited to £125,000
- A12 – Acceptance of grant income limited reduced from £500,000 to £125,000
- A14 (iii) – The virement limit shall be reduced from £200,000 to £125,000
- A14 (iv) – One off virement limit reduced from £200,000 to £125,000
- A14 (v) – Cumulative total of virements limited to £125,000

Capital Programme

- B25– External funding sums added to capital schemes reduced from £500,000 to £200,000
- B28 – Internal funding sums added to capital schemes reduced from £200,000 to £125,000
- B32 (i) – Approval of capital schemes reduced from £200,000 to £125,000
- B 32 (ii) – Approval of capital schemes reduced from £500,000 to £125,000
- B35 – Transfers between capital schemes reduced from £200,000 to £125,000
- B36 – Transfers between capital schemes reduced from £500,000 to £125,000

HRA Business Plan

- B58 – Change in the annual business plan surplus in any one year reduced from £200,000 to £125,000.
- B59 – Change in the annual business plan surplus in any one year reduced from £500,000 to £125,000.

External Arrangements

- E15 – Increase of externally funded revenue activity reduced from £500,000 to £125,000

Specifically in relation to the Officer Scheme of Delegation Cabinet Member/Cabinet authority will be required for the following:-

- 1.2.54(b) – Spend within budget and business plans over £50,000
- 2.2.13 – Externally funded grant agreements over £50,000
- 2.2.68 – Settlement of any claim over £125,000
- 2.4.29 – Write off of any debt over £125,000
- 2.7.11 – Acceptance of any IT contract other than the lowest tender over £125,000
- 2.8.15 – Agree terms of sale of land over £125,000
- 2.8.21 – Variation of terms of leases etc over £125,000
- 2.8.22(f) - Variation of ground lease premiums over £125,000
- 2.8.24(b) – Exchange of land where premium is over £125,000
- 2.8.26 – Expenditure on alterations to land over £125,000
- 2.8.32 – Acceptance of tenders for land disposal over £125,000
- 2.8.38 – Acquisition of land interests over £125,000
- 2.8.42 – To agree dilapidations over £125,000
- 4.1.30 - Acting as Accountable Body for external grant funding over £125,000

Add Additional Recommendation (v)

- (v) the revised delegations will not apply to payments made under contracts, statutory obligations, property transactions, settlement of legal proceedings, treasury management or resulting from any specific decision to delegate at different levels made by the Cabinet or by Full Council.

Add Additional Recommendation (vi)

- (vi) to amend the membership of the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board agreed by Full Council on 16th November 2011 to include as core members 3 Cabinet Members (Adult Services, Children's Services and Communities), the remainder of the membership to remain unchanged.

Note: The core membership agreed on 16th November 2011 provided for 2 Cabinet Members:

- *Health and Adult Social Care*
- *Children's Services and Learning*

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT WAS DECLARED CARRIED

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION AS AMENDED WAS DECLARED CARRIED

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the changes to the Constitution as set out in the report be approved;
- (ii) that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services to finalise the arrangements as approved by Full Council and make any further consequential or minor changes arising from the decision(s) of Full Council;
- (iii) that the City Council's Constitution, as amended, including the Officer Scheme of Delegation for the municipal year 2012/13 be approved;
- (iv) that in relation to financial decisions all expenditure over £125,000 shall be made by the relevant Cabinet Member, over £250,000 by the Cabinet and £2,000,000 by full Council except in respect of matters identified in (v) below.
- (v) that the revised delegations will not apply to payments made under contracts, statutory obligations, property transactions, settlement of legal proceedings, treasury management or resulting from any specific decision to delegate at different levels made by the Cabinet or by Full Council.
- (vi) that the membership of the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board agreed by Full Council on 16th November 2011 be amended to include as core members 3 Cabinet Members (Adult Services, Children's Services and Communities), the remainder of the membership to remain unchanged.

14. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES

RESOLVED that subject to certain decisions that may, from time to time be made by the Council, the following Committees, Sub-Committees and other bodies be appointed with the allocation of seats to political groups shown therein and they be delegated authority to act within their Terms of Reference.

(a) APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS

Political Group	Seats on Council	%
Labour	30	62.5
Conservative	16	33.33
Liberal Democrats	2	4.16

Committees	Labour	Conservative	Lib Dem	Number of Seats to Groups
Overview and Scrutiny Management(10)	6 Cllr Barnes-Andrews Cllr Chaloner Cllr Lewzey Cllr McEwing Cllr Pope Cllr Tucker	3 Cllr Fitzhenry Cllr Hannides Cllr Moulton	1 Cllr Vinson	10
Planning and Rights of Way (7)	4 Cllr Mrs Blatchford Cllr Cunio Cllr Lloyd Cllr Shields	3 Cllr Claisse Cllr L Harris Cllr Smith	0	7
Employment and Appeals Panel (7)	5 Cllr McEwing Cllr Mintoff Cllr Noon Cllr Tucker Cllr Whitbread	2 Cllr Kolker Cllr B Harris	0	7
Chief Officer Employment Panel (7)	5 Cllr Letts Cllr Rayment Cllr Stevens Cllr Thorpe Cllr Dr Williams	2 Cllr Moulton Cllr Smith	0	7
Licensing Committee (13)	8 Cllr Mrs Blatchford Cllr Cunio Cllr Laming Cllr Lewzey Cllr Lloyd Cllr Spicer Cllr Thomas Cllr Tucker	5 Cllr Fitzhenry Cllr B Harris Cllr L Harris Cllr Parnell Cllr Vassiliou	0	13
New from July Governance Committee - Combined Standards and Governance and	4 Cllr Chaloner Cllr Furnell Cllr Kaur Cllr Keogh	3 Cllr Daunt Cllr Hannides Cllr Inglis	0	7

Audit Committees (9) includes 2 Independent Members				
Sub-Committees				
	Labour	Con	Lib Dem	
Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel (7)	5 Cllr Jeffery Cllr Lewzey Cllr McEwing Cllr Pope Cllr Tucker	2 Cllr Baillie Cllr Parnell	0	7
Scrutiny Panel A (7)	4 Cllr Noon Cllr Mintoff Cllr Thomas Cllr Whitbread	2 Cllr Daunt Cllr Claisse	1 Cllr Vinson	7
Scrutiny Panel B (7)	4 Cllr Furnell Cllr Kaur Cllr Dr Paffey Cllr Shields	2 Cllr Baillie Cllr Norris	1 Cllr Turner	7
Licensing General Sub-Committee (5) (Membership must come from membership of Licensing Committee)	3 Cllr Blatchford Cllr Cunio Cllr Thomas Mrs	2 Cllr Parnell Cllr Vassiliou	0	5
New from July Standards Sub-Committee (4) Including 1 Independent Member (Membership from Governance Committee)	2 Cllr Kaur Cllr Keogh	1 Cllr Hannides	0	3
Standards Appeal Sub-Committee (4) Including 1 Independent Member (Membership from Governance Committee)	2 Cllr Furnell Cllr Chaloner	1 Cllr Inglis	0	3

TOTAL	52	28	3	83
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- 1) Appointment to Committees / Sub-Committees and other Bodies NOT subject to political proportionality and therefore not included in the above calculations.

Committee/Sub-Committee	Labour	Con	Lib Dem	Number of Seats to Groups
Standards and Governance ((10) including the Mayor and 4 independent members) N.B. Appointment to S&G until end of June only	2 Cllr Laming Cllr Keogh	2 Cllr Hannides Cllr Inglis	2 Cllr Vinson Cllr Turner	6
Licensing and Gambling Sub-Committee (3) (Any 3 Members drawn from the Licensing Committee membership on rotation basis)	1 (+1)	1(+1)	0	3

Other bodies	Labour	Cons	Lib Dem	
Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority (3)	2 Cllr Barnes-Andrews Cllr Thomas	1 Cllr Smith	0	3
South East Employers (3 + 3)	2 Cllr Letts Cllr Tucker (Deputy)	2	2 Cllr Vinson Cllr Turner (Deputy)	6
Local Democracy Network for Councillors (2)		1	1 Cllr Vinson	2
Partnership for Urban South Hampshire – Overview and Scrutiny Committee (1)			1 Vinson	1
Police Joint Committee (Police Authority) (1) <i>(Overall proportionality is calculated across the County. This may require a change in appointment)</i>	1 Cllr Rayment Cllr Mrs Blatchford (Deputy)			1

Until November Shadow Police and Crime Panel (1) plus 1 deputy <i>(Overall proportionality is calculated across the County.)</i>	1 Cllr Rayment Cllr Mrs Blatchford (Deputy)			1
New Shadow Health and Well-being Board (5) – Cabinet Members for Adults, Children’s Services and Communities plus one each from opposition Groups	3 Cllr Stevens Cllr Bogle Cllr Rayment	1 Cllr Baillie	1	5

(b) APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRS

RESOLVED that the following Chairs be elected for the 2012/13 municipal year and that the Vice-Chairs be elected at their first meetings of the municipal year:-

Committee/Panel	Chair
Overview and Scrutiny Management	Cllr Moulton
Planning and Rights of Way	Cllr Mrs Blatchford
Employment and Appeals	Cllr McEwing
Chief Officer Employment	Cllr Dr. Williams
Licensing	Cllr Cunio
Governance	Cllr Furnell
Health Overview and Scrutiny	Cllr Pope
Scrutiny A	Cllr Noon
Scrutiny B	Cllr Dr Paffey
Licensing General Sub-Committee	Cllr Cunio
Standards Sub-Committee	Cllr Kaur
Standards Appeal Sub-Committee	Cllr Furnell

(c) OTHER APPOINTMENTS

It was noted that the following co-opted Members for the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee had been nominated by their respective organisations:

- Mr T Blackshaw as Representative of the Church of England; and
- Mrs U Topp as Representative of the Catholic Church; and

That the following appointments were still awaiting nomination, and would come from their respective body’s first meeting of the year:

- Parent Governor Representative; and
- Primary Parent Governor Representative

15. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

RESOLVED that the following dates for meetings of the Council in the 2012/13 Municipal Year be approved:

11th July 2012
12th September 2012
14th November 2012
13th February 2013 (Budget)
20th March 2013
15th May 2013

16. DEPUTATIONS, PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

It was noted that no requests to present deputations, petitions or public questions had been received.

17. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

The report of the Leader of the Council was submitted, setting out the details of the business undertaken by the Executive (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

The Leader and the Cabinet made statements and responded to Questions.

The following questions were then submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.1:-

1. Southampton Schools

Question from Councillor Moulton to Councillor Bogle

Can the Cabinet Member please outline the new Administration's policies for Southampton Schools?

Answer

Education is critical for the city and its citizens' future prosperity, growth and wellbeing.

Some of our key policy principles include

- Increasing aspiration and attainment in all our schools
- Celebrating progress and achievement
- Collaboration and sharing of best practice across city schools
- Looking outside the city for examples of best practice to learn from
- Focus support on the proven triggers for schools improvement, namely leadership and teaching

Our manifesto states a number of key areas of attention, including how to improve the level of attendance in schools (with reference to the recent Scrutiny inquiry), reverse the loss of children to schools outside Southampton at Year 7 and using schools as 'community hubs' for a number of shared public services.

2. Cultural Quarter

Question from Councillor Hannides to Councillor Dr Williams

Following the very successful opening of Guildhall Square last year and the impressive launch of SeaCity Museum last month, will the Leader confirm whether the emerging cultural quarter remains a priority for the new Executive?

Answer

There is no reason to change Council policy in this area.

3. Budget Pressures in Adult Social Care

Question from Councillor Moulton to Councillor Stevens

Can the Cabinet Member outline any new budget pressures in Adult Social Care he intends to commit to this municipal year, over and above those set out in the 2012/13 revenue budget approved by full council in February?

Answer

No

4. Sure Start

Question from Councillor Moulton to Councillor Bogle

Will the Cabinet Member commit to keeping open all of Southampton's Sure Start centres?

Answer

Yes, I can currently see no circumstances where we would consider closing any of Southampton's Sure Start centres.

5. Council Priorities

Question from Councillor Moulton to Councillor Dr Williams

Which areas of council expenditure will be the highest priority for the new Administration?

Answer

Our priorities are included in the Labour Party's manifesto and this has been sent to all Members.

6. Outsourcing Council Service Provision

Question from Councillor Claisse to Councillor Dr Williams

Will the Leader continue to consider the relative advantages of outsourcing Council service provision and functions to the private sector, or are they ideologically opposed to such arrangements?

Answer

Yes, we will consider all options and keep an open mind as opportunities arise.

7. Redundancies

Question from Councillor Fitzhenry to Councillor Dr Williams

Can the Leader reconfirm his manifesto commitment that no one will be made redundant under his administration?

Answer

No such manifesto commitment is stated. What the manifesto includes is that :

We will do all we can to stop council job losses, instead choosing to retain and retrain staff, saving thousands in redundancy payments; and

City Council employees are at the centre of everything we do. We will listen to our front line staff and ensure we take their expertise into account when making decisions.

8. Highways Spend

Question from Councillor Fitzhenry to Councillor Thorpe

Can the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport confirm he will maintain highways spend at the current levels?

Answer

I can confirm that I know of no current reason to change. However, I would confirm the manifesto commitment that we will consult residents and businesses on the priorities for road and pavement repairs and renewal.

9. Budget Gap

Question from Councillor Smith to Councillor Dr Williams

What is the budget gap for the years 2013/14 and 2014/15?

Answer

The budget gap is currently as published in February 2012 and stands at £19.8M in 2013/14 rising to £31.2M in 2014/15. This takes into account a level of savings to be delivered as shown below:

	2013/14	2014/15
	£M	£M
Gap After Pressures	30.3	45.7
Savings Known	(2.4)	(2.7)
Future Savings (Work In Progress)	(8.1)	(11.8)
Current Net Gap	19.8	31.2

10. Public transport

Question from Councillor Smith to Councillor Dr Williams

Public transport is a priority to your Administration. How will residents notice an improvement?

Answer

Public Transport is a priority. Understanding the infrastructure is key to working in partnership. Members of our Policy Team will be investigating and any lack of public involvement is something that we would wish to change.

11. Reviews and Investigations

Question from Councillor Smith to Councillor Dr Williams

How many reviews and investigations has the Leader of the Labour Group instigated or is planning to instigate, and what is the cost of these to the local tax payer?

Answer

These are included in our manifesto but include amongst others, International Way refurbishment, City View magazine, car parking charges in the city centre, CCTV and the waste collection service.

12. Post Offices

Question from Councillor Vinson to Councillor Dr Williams

Will the Leader explore opportunities under the Post Offices Act, and in light of initiatives such as that adopted by Westminster Council, for the participation of Southampton City Council in measures to strengthen and secure the post office network in the City?

Answer

There is now an opportunity within the scrutiny process to bring forward such reviews.

13. The Children's Playground on the Common

Question from Councillor Vinson to Councillor Bogle

Will the Cabinet Member ask officers to investigate and bring forward proposals for renovating the children's playground on the Common?

Answer

There are no plans currently to invest in this play area, whose equipment is regularly reviewed for maintenance purposes. I would need further information, in order to build a case for investment.

14. Recycling Rate

Question from Councillor Furnell to Councillor Thorpe

Can the cabinet member tell us the current recycling rate in the city and how this compares with six years ago?

Answer

The council's recycling performance has been reported as national indicator N192, the percentage of waste recycled, composted and sent for reuse.

The record for the last six years is set out below:

year	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
N192	25.76%	27.67%	27.81%	26.38%	25.07%	23.60%

18. MOTIONS

(a) Establishment of a Local Authority Trading Company

Councillor Vinson moved and Councillor Turner seconded: -

"This Council urges the Executive to bring forward at the earliest opportunity, costed proposals for the establishment of a Local Authority Trading Company or equivalent to deliver adult social care services in the first instance".

Amendment moved by Councillor Stevens and seconded by Councillor Laming:

Delete from the second line "costed" and replace with "a variety of in depth"

Delete from the end of the third line "to deliver adult social care services" and replace with "delivery vehicle, in order to deliver adult social care services,"

AMENDED MOTION TO READ:

This council urges the Executive to bring forward at the earliest opportunity a variety of in depth proposals for the establishment of a Local Authority Trading Company or equivalent delivery vehicle, in order to deliver adult social care services, in the first instance.

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT WAS DECLARED CARRIED

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION AS AMENDED WAS DECLARED CARRIED

RESOLVED that the motion as amended be approved.

NOTE: Councillor Noon declared a prejudicial interest in the above matter, in view of his employment within Adult Social Care and left the meeting during consideration of the matter.

19. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO THE CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES OR THE MAYOR

It was noted that no questions to the Chairs of Committees or the Mayor had been received.

20. ANNUAL STANDARDS AND GOVERNANCE BUSINESS REVIEW

RESOLVED that the report of the Chair of Standards and Governance Committee giving an overview of the work of the Committee be received and noted (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

21. CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2012

RESOLVED that the report of the Returning Officer concerning the results of the City Council Elections 2012 be received and noted (copy of report circulated at the meeting and appended to signed minutes.)

22. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY - SUMMARY OF CALL-IN ACTIVITY

RESOLVED that it be noted that the report of the Director of Economic Development summarising the use of the call-in procedure over the last three months would be submitted to the July Council meeting.

23. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY:ANNUAL REPORT 2011/2012

RESOLVED that it be noted that the report of the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee detailing the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee Annual Report 2011/12 in accordance with the Council's Constitution be submitted to the July Council meeting.

24. LOCAL AUTHORITY MORTGAGE SCHEME

The report of the Cabinet Member for Housing was submitted regarding the Local Authority Mortgage Scheme (copy of report circulated with the agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

Amendment moved by Councillor Letts and seconded by Councillor Payne:

At the end of Recommendation (i) Add "subject to the approval of the final scheme by the Executive Members for Housing and Leisure Services and Resources."

Delete Recommendation (v) "That the Cabinet Member for Housing brings a further Executive report to Cabinet and Council once the pilot funding is exhausted, to allow evaluation of the pilot, and consideration of a wider scheme."

AMENDED RECOMMENDATIONS TO READ:

- (i) That the Council adopt the Lend a Hand Mortgage scheme as an initial pilot scheme subject to the approval of the final scheme by the Executive Members for Housing and Leisure Services and Resources.
- (ii) The Lend a Hand Mortgage Scheme not to be implemented until the Director of Corporate Services is satisfied as to the lawfulness of the scheme.
- (iii) To operate outside of current Council Treasury Policy to allow money to be placed on deposit for an initial fixed period of 5 years. The investment of £1 million would be deposited with Lloyds TSB to potentially underwrite a minimum of 40 deposits for First Time Buyers.
- (iv) The maximum value of any loan under the scheme is set at £118,750.
- (v) That the Council indemnify the Monitoring Officer against all personal liability he will incur by providing Lloyds Bank with an opinion and by providing Lloyds Bank with a signed opinion letter.
- (vi) That the qualifying post codes will include all post codes within the LA boundary area and will exclude any that cross the boundary into a neighbouring authority. The qualifying post codes will be provided to the lender(s) in a schedule to the indemnity deed.
- (vii) To delegate authority to the Director for Economic Development to enter into agreements with any financial institution pursuant to Sections 435 and 442 of the Housing Act 1985 in furtherance of the scheme and in consultation with the Director of Corporate Services.

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT WAS DECLARED CARRIED

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION AS AMENDED WAS DECLARED CARRIED

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Council adopt the Lend a Hand Mortgage scheme as an initial pilot scheme subject to the approval of the final scheme by the Executive Members for Housing and Leisure Services and Resources.
- (ii) The Lend a Hand Mortgage Scheme not to be implemented until the Director of Corporate Services is satisfied as to the lawfulness of the scheme.
- (iii) To operate outside of current Council Treasury Policy to allow money to be placed on deposit for an initial fixed period of 5 years. The investment of £1 million would be deposited with Lloyds TSB to potentially underwrite a minimum of 40 deposits for First Time Buyers.
- (iv) The maximum value of any loan under the scheme is set at £118,750.
- (v) That the Council indemnify the Monitoring Officer against all personal liability he will incur by providing Lloyds Bank with an opinion and by providing Lloyds Bank with a signed opinion letter.
- (vi) That the qualifying post codes will include all post codes within the LA boundary area and will exclude any that cross the boundary into a neighbouring authority. The qualifying post codes will be provided to the lender(s) in a schedule to the indemnity deed.
- (vii) To delegate authority to the Director for Economic Development to enter into agreements with any financial institution pursuant to Sections 435 and 442 of the Housing Act 1985 in furtherance of the scheme and in consultation with the Director of Corporate Services.

25. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC - CONFIDENTIAL PAPERS INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM

RESOLVED that in accordance with the Council's Constitution, specifically the Access to Information procedure Rules contained within the Constitution, the press and public be excluded from the meeting in respect of any consideration of the confidential appendix 1 to the following minute.

Appendix 1 is considered to be confidential, the confidentiality of which is based on Category 3 of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules. The appendix includes details of a proposed transaction which, if disclosed prior to entering into a contract, could put the Council at a commercial disadvantage in the future. In applying the public interest test it is not considered appropriate to make public offers made as this could lead to a revision of bids. Therefore, publication of this information could be to the Council's financial detriment.

26. TOWNHILL PARK REGENERATION FRAMEWORK : FINANCIAL MODEL AND PHASE 1 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Upon the motion by Councillor Letts and Seconded by Councillor Payne, the report of the Cabinet Member for Housing seeking approval for the regeneration proposals for

the regeneration framework for Townhill Park, be withdrawn. (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED that the report of the Cabinet Member for Housing seeking approval for the regeneration proposals for the regeneration framework for Townhill Park, be withdrawn.