

County Hall West Bridgford Nottingham NG2 7QP

# **SUMMONS TO COUNCIL**

date Thursday, 17 December 2020 venue Virtual Meeting commencing at 10:30

You are hereby requested to attend the above Meeting to be held at the time/place and on the date mentioned above for the purpose of transacting the business on the Agenda as under.

Chief Executive

1	Minutes of the last meeting held on 15 October 2020	1 - 24
2	Apologies for Absence	
3 4	Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers:- (see note 3)  (a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (b) Private Interests (pecuniary and non-pecuniary) Chairman's Business	
5	Constituency Issues (see note 4)	
6a	Presentation of Petitions (if any) (see note 5)	
6b	Responses to Petitions Presented to the Chairman of the County Council	25 - 32
7	Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2020-21	33 - 40

#### 8 Questions

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- a) Questions to Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire Authority
- b) Questions to Committee Chairmen NOTICE OF MOTION

#### Motion One

This Council notes that spending on public transport per head in the East Midlands was only £268 last year. This is the fourth year in a row that the East Midlands has had the lowest public transport spend in the country. This compares unfavourably with the West Midlands who saw £467 spent per head at the same time. The UK average was £481 per year according to figures released by East Midlands Councils.

This Council further notes the decision to pause the Eastern Leg of HS2b. The news HS2 has been shelved from Birmingham to Leeds, via the East Midlands in favour of the Western Leg of Crewe to Manchester is a disaster for our region. This decision will cost this region hundreds of millions of pounds in regeneration opportunities. This is catastrophic for our region.

This Council believes that it is imperative that HS2b is delivered in full. The Eastern Leg of HS2 is critical to the long-term economic success of the East Midlands. This must include the East Midlands Hub Station at Toton.

This Council also notes the lack of progress with the campaign to fully electrify the Midlands' Mainline.

We therefore call for an urgent meeting with the Secretary of State for Transport and all key stakeholders to make the case for urgent investment in public transport in Nottinghamshire and the East Midlands including the reinstatement of the electrification of the Midlands' Mainline and the unpausing of the Eastern Leg of HS2b.

## Councillor Jason Zadrozny Councillor Rachel Madden

Motion Two

Nottinghamshire County Council notes that from 1st May to 31st October – Value Added Tax (VAT) was set at a zero rate on supplies of PPE as defined by Public Health England's coronavirus (COVID-19) PPE guidance on 24 April 2020.

This Council notes that from November 1st, face masks and gloves now cost more after the government said a waiver of VAT on personal protective equipment (PPE) would not be extended.

The Treasury has confirmed that the 20% sales tax would once more apply to protective equipment bought by firms and consumers after the six-month exemption.

This is a tax on safety and leaves the poorest vulnerable in our County and is having an adverse impact on businesses and ordinary people who are legally bound to use masks in shops and on public transport.

We note that food and convenience store owners and other businesses that are obliged to use PPE are now facing increased costs just when they are struggling most. An increase of 20% is a significant amount and has led to increases in price for PPE equipment, it has slowed demand and is acting as a barrier to buying PPE for some, at a time when many people's income has been reduced due to the pandemic.

This Council asks the Leaders of the Ashfield Independents, Conservative / Mansfield Independents and Labour groups to write a joint letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak MP and Treasury Minister Jesse Norman MP to call for this decision to be reversed and that a zero rate on VAT on supplies of PPE is reintroduced until we get to grips with the coronavirus pandemic.

### Councillor David Martin Councillor Helen-Ann Smith

Motion Three

This Council is concerned that water companies continue to allow the discharge of significant amounts of untreated sewage into our watercourses and waterways during periods of heavy rainfall.

It has been reported that in their respective regions last year (2019), untreated sewage was released almost 40,000 times by Severn Trent Water and more than 10,000 times by Anglian Water.

This Council resolves to write to Severn Trent Water and Anglian Water seeking an explanation and demanding that they invest more in the monitoring and reduction of these discharges, in order to prevent raw sewage polluting this county's watercourses, killing wildlife, damaging biodiversity and undermining all attempts to create a cleaner, better environment.

# Councillor Richard Jackson Councillor Bruce Laughton

#### Motion Four

## This Council:

- recognises the significant increase in the number of Nottinghamshire people working from home during the COVID-19 pandemic and the contribution this has made to reducing the 'R' (reproduction) number especially during the early stages of the lockdown;
- anticipates that this increase in home working could bring about a permanent change to the way some organisations, businesses and employees work in the future, even after the country returns to more 'normal' circumstances;
- believes that many people have worked from home very happily and successfully, but understands why others have found this change of routine and working environment to be isolating and stressful;
- urges employers across Nottinghamshire to ensure that their employees working from home are given the practical and personal support they need, so that this does not have a negative impact on their mental and physical health and wellbeing.

# Councillor Dr John Doddy Councillor Kevin Rostance

#### Motion Five

This council notes that on 20th March 2020, as part of his pandemic response package, the Chancellor provided a £20 a week uplift to the basic rate of Universal Credit. This was to reflect the reality that the level of benefits were not adequate to protect the swiftly increasing number of households relying on them as the crisis hit.

This council further notes that in April 2021, this benefit will end, leaving the level of unemployment support at its lowest ever relative to average earnings, and meaning many families income will be below the poverty line.

### Therefore this council resolves to:

 Write to the Chancellor, Rishi Sunak and to the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson demanding that the £20 increase to Universal Credit is made permanent and extended to claimants on legacy benefits. 2. Work with other local government organisations to form a coalition to pressure the government to make the £20 increase to Universal Credit permanent.

### Councillor Alan Rhodes Councillor Nicki Brooks

Motion Six

This council notes that fireworks impact considerably on the health and wellbeing of the elderly and vulnerable in our communities, together with domestic pets and wildlife.

# This council proposes:

- To write to the UK Government urging them to introduce legislation to ensure that only silent fireworks are available for retail.
- To undertake a proactive public awareness campaign, in partnership with public health and our district, borough and city councils, to encourage our residents to only attend silent firework displays.

### Councillor Alan Rhodes Councillor Kate Foale

# **NOTES:-**

## (A) For Councillors

- (1) Members will be informed of the date and time of their Group meeting for Council by their Group Researcher.
- (2) Lunch will usually be taken at approximately 12.30pm.
- (3) (a) Persons making a declaration of interest should have regard to the Code of Conduct and the Procedure Rules for Meetings of the Full Council. Those declaring must indicate whether their interest is a disclosable pecuniary interest or a private interest and the reasons for the declaration.
  - (b) Any member or officer who declares a disclosable pecuniary interest in an item must withdraw from the meeting during discussion and voting upon it, unless a dispensation has been granted. Members or officers

- requiring clarification on whether to make a declaration of interest are invited to contact the Monitoring Officer or Democratic Services prior to the meeting.
- (c) Declarations of interest will be recorded and included in the minutes of this meeting and it is therefore important that clear details are given by members and others in turn, to enable Democratic Services to record accurate information.
- (4) At any Full Council meeting except the budget meeting and an extraordinary meeting Members are given an opportunity to speak for up to three minutes on any issue which specifically relates to their division and is relevant to the services provided by the County Council. These speeches must relate specifically to the area the Member represents and should not be of a general nature. They are constituency speeches and therefore must relate to constituency issues only. This is an opportunity simply to air these issues in a Council meeting. It will not give rise to a debate on the issues or a question or answer session. There is a maximum time limit of 15 minutes for this item.
- (5) At any Full Council meeting except the budget meeting and an extraordinary meeting Members may present a petition to the Chairman of the County Council on any matter affecting the residents of their division, and in relation to which the County Council has powers or duties. The Member presenting the petition can introduce and speak about the petition for up to one minute. Members are reminded that there is a time limit of 15 minutes for the presentation of petitions, after which any petitions not yet presented will be received en bloc by the Chairman.
- (6) In relation to questions to the Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire Authority and Committee Chairmen; after receiving an answer to their question, the Councillor asking the original question may ask one supplementary question on the same matter. There will be no additional supplementary questions.
- (7) Members' attention is drawn to the questions put to the Leader of the Council and the Chairmen of the Adult Social Care and Public Health, Children and Young People's, Communities and Place, Finance and Major Contracts Management and Governance and Ethics Committees under paragraphs 42, 46 and 47 of the Procedure Rules, and the answers to which are included at the back of the Council book.
- (8) Members are reminded that these papers may be recycled. Appropriate containers are located in the respective secretariats.
- (9) Commonly used points of order
  - 26 Constituency issues must be about issues which specifically relate to the Member's division and is relevant to the services provided by the County Council

- 51 Only 1 supplementary question per question is allowed from the Councillor who asked the original question and supplementary questions must be on the same matter
- 61 The Mover or Seconder has spoken for more than 10 minutes when moving the motion
- 64 The Member has spoken for more than 5 minutes
- 66 The Member is not speaking to the subject under discussion
- 67 The Member has already spoken on the motion
- 86 Points of Order and Personal Explanations
- 96 Disorderly conduct

# (10) <u>Time limit of speeches</u>

### Motions

64 – no longer than 5 minutes (subject to any exceptions set out in the Constitution)

# **Constituency Issues**

26 - up to 3 minutes per speech allowed

29 - up to 15 minutes for this item allowed

### **Petitions**

33 - up to one minute per petition allowed

37 - up to 15 minutes for this item allowed

### Questions

45 – up to 60 minutes for this item allowed

## (B) For Members of the Public

(1) Members of the public wishing to inspect "Background Papers" referred to in the reports on the agenda or Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act should contact:

#### Customer Services Centre 0300 500 80 80.

- (2) The papers enclosed with this agenda are available in large print if required. Copies can be requested by contacting the Customer Services Centre on 0300 500 80 80. Certain documents (for example appendices and plans to reports) may not be available electronically. Hard copies can be requested from the above contact.
- (3) This agenda and its associated reports are available to view online via an online calendar –

http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings.aspx