

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

COUNCIL

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

**At the Meeting of the Council of the Borough of Kirklees held at
Council Chamber - Town Hall, Huddersfield on Wednesday 15 November 2017**

PRESENT

The Mayor (Councillor Christine Iredale) in the Chair

COUNCILLORS

Councillor Masood Ahmed	Councillor Mahmood Akhtar
Councillor Karen Allison	Councillor Bill Armer
Councillor Gulfam Asif	Councillor Donna Bellamy
Councillor Martyn Bolt	Councillor Cahal Burke
Councillor Jean Calvert	Councillor Andrew Cooper
Councillor Nosheen Dad	Councillor Richard Eastwood
Councillor Eric Firth	Councillor Donald Firth
Councillor Michelle Grainger-Mead	Councillor Charles Greaves
Councillor David Hall	Councillor Steve Hall
Councillor Lisa Holmes	Councillor Erin Hill
Councillor Edgar Holroyd-Doveton	Councillor James Homewood
Councillor Judith Hughes	Councillor Paul Kane
Councillor Manisha Roma Kaushik	Councillor Viv Kendrick
Councillor Musarrat Khan	Councillor John Lawson
Councillor Vivien Lees-Hamilton	Councillor Robert Light
Councillor Fazila Loonat	Councillor Gwen Lowe
Councillor Terry Lyons	Councillor Andrew Marchington
Councillor Naheed Mather	Councillor Peter McBride
Councillor Bernard McGuin	Councillor Darren O'Donovan
Councillor Andrew Palfreeman	Councillor Shabir Pandor
Councillor Nigel Patrick	Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Mussarat Pervaiz	Councillor Amanda Pinnock
Councillor Andrew Pinnock	Councillor Kath Pinnock
Councillor Hilary Richards	Councillor Mohammad Sarwar
Councillor Cathy Scott	Councillor David Sheard
Councillor Ken Sims	Councillor Elizabeth Smaje
Councillor Richard Smith	Councillor Mohan Sokhal
Councillor Julie Stewart-Turner	Councillor John Taylor
Councillor Kath Taylor	Councillor Graham Turner
Councillor Nicola Turner	Councillor Sheikh Ullah
Councillor Michael Watson	Councillor Gemma Wilson
Councillor Linda Wilkinson	Councillor Rob Walker
Councillor Jim Dodds	Councillor Habiban Zaman

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81 **Announcements by the Mayor and Chief Executive**

The Mayor welcomed Cllr Zaman to the meeting, acknowledging Cllr Zaman's recent election as Councillor to the Batley East ward.

The Mayor also advised that there would be a break during the meeting, during which time officers would be available for discussions regarding the future provision of Adult Social Care.

82 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors O'Neill and Hussain.

83 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

It was moved by the Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Mayor and;

RESOLVED – That the minutes of Council held on 11 October 2017 be approved as a correct record.

84 **Declaration of Interests**

Councillors Ahmed, D Hall, Hughes, Light, Lowe, O'Donovan, Pandor, Scott, Smith and N Turner declared an 'other' interest in Agenda Item 18 on the grounds that either they, or a family member, were employed within the public sector.

Councillor Hill declared an 'other' interest in Agenda Item 8 on the grounds that her partner is employed by West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

85 **Petitions (from Members of the Council)**

Councillor Loonat submitted a petition on behalf of the residents of Hyrstlands Road, Carrside Crescent and Park Close Batley, regarding car parking issues and safety concerns.

The Mayor directed that, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9(3), the petition be referred to the appropriate Service Director for investigation.

86 **Deputations/Petitions (from Members of the Public)**

Council received deputations from (a) Isaac Barnett in regards to Yorkshire Devolution and (b) Jackie Murphy in regards to the Hands off HRI Campaign.

The Leader of the Council responded to the deputations.

87 **Public Question Time**

Council received a question from Brigid Harbour regarding the role of scrutiny in regards to the HRI campaign.

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

88 **West Yorkshire Combined Authority - Minutes**

Council received the Minutes of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority held on 3 August 2017. The Leader of the Council responded to questions arising from the content of the Minutes.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority held on 3 August 2017 be received and noted.

89 Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report (Reference from Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee)

It was moved by Councillor Stewart-Turner, seconded by Councillor Smaje, and

RESOLVED – That the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report be received and noted.

90 Report of Scrutiny Ad Hoc Panel (Reference from Cabinet)

It was moved by Councillor Burke, seconded by Councillor Bellamy, and

RESOLVED – That the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel report be received and noted.

91 Reasonable Behaviour Policy (Reference from Cabinet)

It was moved by Councillor Sheard, seconded by Councillor Pandor, and

RESOLVED - That the Reasonable Behaviour Policy be accepted and endorsed.

92 Property Investment Fund (Reference from Cabinet)

It was moved by Councillor Mather, seconded by Councillor McBride, and

RESOLVED - That approval be given to the setting up of a Property Investment Fund with £25m of provision being made in the Capital Plan phased as detailed in paragraph 3.5 of the report.

93 Kirklees Democracy Commission

(Under the Provision of Council Procedure Rule 16(4), The Mayor advised during the debate on this item that she would extend the meeting beyond 9.00pm to allow the debate to be concluded).

It was moved by Councillor Scott and seconded by Councillor Marchington;

- 1) That under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 15(11), Council move immediately to the vote on the recommendations as set out below.
- 2) That Council undertake a separate debate and vote on recommendation 18 as set out in Appendix 1 of the considered report in respect of votes at 16 immediately on the conclusion of the rest of the debate.
- 3) That Council agrees the strategic outcomes and underpinning recommendations set out in Appendix 1 of the considered report to the report subject to the changes set out below:
 1. Kirklees Council should make Active Citizenship a shared strategic priority and use this as a basis for developing a new democratic relationship between all Kirklees citizens and the state;

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2. Kirklees Council should ensure that schools play a central role as local democratic hubs as part of the delivery of an Active Citizens Strategy. This should involve designing (and putting into practice) a range of approaches which will create pathways for young citizens to become involved in civic society, including raising awareness about being a councillor. These could include:
 - (i) Designing local democracy resources for Kirklees schools to be used in the context of civic education.
 - (ii) Strengthening the links between local councillors and the schools in their wards through programmed “school surgeries” as part of citizenship education.
 - (iii) Working with the National Citizen Service to develop a mentoring scheme, to be piloted in Kirklees.
 - (iv) Working with the Local Government Association (LGA) to develop a young councillor “apprenticeship” scheme, to be piloted in Kirklees.
 - (v) Working with the University of Huddersfield and local colleges to develop a structured approach to work placement.
 - (vi) Developing a mentoring scheme between Kirklees Councillors and Kirklees Youth Councillors;
 - (vii) Kirklees Council should work with local businesses to develop the idea of “Business Citizenship” as part of delivering an Active Citizens Strategy with our partners;

Whereby, it was agreed by Council to move to the vote as moved by Councillor Scott at recommendation (1). The vote was carried.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That Council undertake a separate debate and vote on recommendation 18 as set out in Appendix 1 of the considered report in respect of votes at 16 immediately on the conclusion of the rest of the debate.
- 2) That Council agrees the strategic outcomes and underpinning recommendations set out in Appendix 1 of the considered report to the report subject to the changes set out below:
 1. Kirklees Council should make Active Citizenship a shared strategic priority and use this as a basis for developing a new democratic relationship between all Kirklees citizens and the state;
 2. Kirklees Council should ensure that schools play a central role as local democratic hubs as part of the delivery of an Active Citizens Strategy. This should involve designing (and putting into practice) a range of approaches which will create pathways for young citizens to become involved in civic society, including raising awareness about being a councillor. These could include:
 - (i) Designing local democracy resources for Kirklees schools to be used in the context of civic education.

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- (ii) Strengthening the links between local councillors and the schools in their wards through programmed “school surgeries” as part of citizenship education.
- (iii) Working with the National Citizen Service to develop a mentoring scheme, to be piloted in Kirklees.
- (iv) Working with the Local Government Association (LGA) to develop a young councillor “apprenticeship” scheme, to be piloted in Kirklees.
- (v) Working with the University of Huddersfield and local colleges to develop a structured approach to work placement.
- (vi) Developing a mentoring scheme between Kirklees Councillors and Kirklees Youth Councillors;
- (vii) Kirklees Council should work with local businesses to develop the idea of “Business Citizenship” as part of delivering an Active Citizens Strategy with our partners;

At this stage of the Meeting, Council moved to the consideration of Agenda Item No. 20 (Minute No. 100 refers)

- 94 **Written Questions to the Leader, Cabinet Members, Chairs of Committees and Nominated Spokespersons**
Item not considered (due to time constraints).
- 95 **Key Discussion - Children's Services**
Council received an update from Councillor Hill (Cabinet Member – Children’s Services) on the progress of the Children’s Services Improvement Journey and held a Key Discussion debate on Children’s Services.
- 96 **Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to the Government's review of the Electrification of the Transpennine Railway**
Item not considered (due to time constraints).
- 97 **Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Clean Air for Kirklees**
Item not considered (due to time constraints).
- 98 **Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 to address removal of the 1% pay cap for all public sector workers**
Item not considered (due to time constraints).
- 99 **Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Care Leavers Council Tax Exemption**
Item not considered (due to time constraints).

100

Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Votes at 16

It was moved by Councillor N Turner, seconded by Councillor Pandor and;

RESOLVED – “That this is Council notes:

- 1) That currently 1.5 million 16 and 17 year olds are denied the vote in public elections in the UK;
- 2) That 16 and 17 year olds are able to vote in local elections in Scotland, and in elections to the Scottish Parliament;
- 3) That the campaign to lower the voting age is supported by thousands of young people across the UK and that the Votes at 16 Coalition consists of a wide range of youth and democracy organisations;
- 4) The recent report by the Democracy Commission, which recommends that “National government should amend legislation to introduce the compulsory registration of young people at the age of 16.”

This Council believes:

- 1) 16 and 17 year olds are knowledgeable and passionate about the world in which they live and are as capable of engaging in the democratic system as any other citizen;
- 2) Lowering the voting age to 16, combined with strong citizenship education, would empower young people to better engage in society and influence decisions that will define their future;
- 3) People who can consent to medical treatment, work full-time, pay taxes, get married and join the armed forces should also have the right to vote.

This Council resolves:

- 1) To join the Votes at 16 Coalition;
- 2) To write to local MPs and the local media to inform them of this decision and ask them to support the campaign;
- 3) To promote this policy through its communications;
- 4) To encourage our local MPs to attend and debate at the second reading of Representation of the People (Young People’s Enfranchisement and Education) Bill 2017-2019, which is taking place on 1 December 2017.
- 5) To run activities to raise awareness of and support for Votes at 16 in the local area.”