

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 7 November 2018**

### **PRESENT**

**The Mayor (Councillor Gwen Lowe) 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 Richard Eastwood	Councillor Eric 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 Mumtaz Hussain
Councillor Christine Iredale	Councillor Paul Kane
Councillor Viv Kendrick	Councillor Musarrat Khan
Councillor John Lawson	Councillor Vivien Lees-Hamilton
Councillor Robert Light	Councillor Fazila Loonat
Councillor Terry Lyons	Councillor Naheed Mather
Councillor Peter McBride	Councillor Bernard McGuin
Councillor Darren O'Donovan	Councillor Marielle O'Neill
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 David Sheard
Councillor Will Simpson	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 Sheikh Ullah
Councillor Rob Walker	Councillor Habiban Zaman
Councillor Nell Griffiths	Councillor Alison Munro
Councillor Richard Murgatroyd	Councillor Mark Thompson
Councillor Harpreet Uppal	

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

The Mayor presented the former Mayor, Councillor Christine Iredale, with the 2017/2018 Mayoral Yearbook in recognition of her term of office.

The Mayor made the statement that the Chamber was unified in its condemnation of the criminals who had carried out sexual abuse of children within the Borough, and that its thoughts were with the survivors and their families. She advised that the Council and its partners would act to protect children, expose wrongdoing, and bring the abusers to justice.

The Mayor advised that, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 33(3), the filming of the meeting from the public gallery had been permitted.

The Chief Executive gave notice of the election of Councillor Will Simpson to Denby Dale Ward, following the by-election held on 1 November 2018, and welcomed Councillor Simpson to the Council.

Councillor Light gave notice that he would be submitting his resignation as Councillor for Birstall and Birkenshaw ward with effect from 16 November 2018. Tributes were paid by Councillors D Hall, Smaje, Pandor and Lawson.

78 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Cooper, Dad, D Firth, Kaushik, Scott and Watson.

79 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**RESOLVED** - That the Minutes of Council held on 10 October 2018 be approved as a correct record.

80 **Declaration of Interests**

Councillor Armer declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 17 on the grounds that he knew of some families who had been affected. (Minute No. 93 refers)

81 **Petitions (From Members of the Council)**

No petitions were received.

82 **Deputations & Petitions (From Members of the Public)**

Council received a deputation from Mr Chris Owen with regards to the development of integrated care systems and the impact local upon health care provision.

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

No petitions were received.

83 **Public Question Time**

Council received a question from Mr Chris Owen regarding the difference between sustainable transformation plans and integrated care plans.

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

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(At this stage of the meeting, it was agreed that, under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 15(3), the order of business be amended to consider Agenda Item 17 as the next item of business (Minute No. 93 refers)).

- 84 **West Yorkshire Combined Authority - Minutes**  
**RESOLVED** - That the Minutes of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, held on 2 August 2018 be received and noted.

(At this stage of the meeting, it was agreed that Council Procedure Rule 5(5) be suspended in order to allow Agenda Item 10 to be considered as the next item and prior to Agenda Item 11. (Minute No. 86 refers)).

- 85 **Scrutiny Update**  
Item not considered (due to time constraints).

- 86 **Annual Report of Director of Public Health - Healthy Ageing**  
Council received a presentation from the Director of Public Health, Rachel Spencer-Henshall, on Healthy Ageing. Following the presentation, Council were given the opportunity to comment and ask questions regarding the content of the presentation.

- 87 **Key Discussion - Health Inequalities**  
Council held a Key Discussion on Health Inequalities, which was introduced by the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care, Councillor Khan.

- 88 **Written Questions to the Leader, Cabinet Members, Chairs of Committees and Nominated Spokespersons**  
Item not considered (due to time constraints).

- 89 **Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Flockton Traffic Issues**  
It was moved by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor J Taylor and;

**RESOLVED** - That this Council notes that work is now underway to produce an Option Assessment Report in relation to the North Kirklees Orbital Route which will help to determine if this is a viable scheme to develop.

Additionally the £77 million Cooper Bridge by pass, linking the A644 near junction 25 M62 and the A62 near Bradley Bar is currently in the Design phase.

The Council recognises that both these schemes have the potential to significantly affect the volume and flow of traffic in and around the village of Flockton and on the B6118.

Given the existing severe traffic problems affecting the village of Flockton and the undoubted increase in the future with developments already in construction and the potential from the Local Plan, the Council recognises that even if it were to overlook the 2 major road schemes already mentioned, without intervention, this situation will only continue to deteriorate.

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Therefore the council calls on the Cabinet to undertake an assessment of any impact upon the village of Flockton & B6118 from the NKOR and A62 scheme and to ensure that due consideration is given to the issues in Flockton prior to any work starting on either of these road schemes.

**90 Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Universal Credit**

Item not considered (due to time constraints).

**91 Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Giving People a say on the Final Brexit Deal**

Item not considered (due to time constraints).

**92 Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Modern Slavery**

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

**RESOLVED** – That this Council notes;

Though slavery was abolished in the UK in 1833, there are more slaves today than ever before in human history. Figures from the International Labour Organisation (ILO) suggest that there are more than 40 million people in modern slavery across the world, with nearly 25 million held in forced labour.

There were 5145 potential victims were submitted to the National Referral Mechanism in 2017; a 35% increase on 2016. A rising number but still well below the 10,000 and 13,000 potential victims estimated by the Home Office.

Modern Slavery is happening nationwide, including the Kirklees district. Traffickers and slave masters use whatever means they have at their disposal to coerce, deceive and force individuals into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment. This can include sexual and criminal exploitation.

Additionally, Government plans to bring in temporary migrant workers to the UK from outside the EU to fill labour shortfalls after Brexit could leave thousands of people at risk of exploitation. Proposals for 5,000 non-EU workers to come on six-month visas to work on British farms over the next two years could create a hotbed for modern slavery unless key safeguards are adopted.

This Council believes:

- That action needs to be taken to raise awareness of modern slavery and the fact that it is happening all over the UK, including Kirklees.
- That the current support for victims is not sufficient and needs to go beyond the 45 days they are currently given by the government.
- That Councils have an important role to play in ensuring their contracts and supplies don't contribute to modern day slavery and exploitation.

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This Council resolves:

To adopt a policy against Modern Slavery to ensure our procurement practices don't support slavery; and to ask Cabinet to ensure that:

- Its corporate procurement team is trained to understand modern slavery through the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply's (CIPS) online course on Ethical Procurement and Supply;
- its Contractors are required to comply fully with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, wherever it applies, with contract termination as a potential sanction for non-compliance;
- any abnormally low-cost tenders are challenged to ensure they do not rely upon the potential contractor practising modern slavery;
- it highlights to its suppliers that contracted workers are free to join a trade union and are not to be treated unfairly for belonging to one;
- it publicises its whistle-blowing system for staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery;
- its tendered contractors are encouraged to adopt a whistle-blowing policy which enables their staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery;
- it reviews its contractual spending regularly to identify any potential issues with modern slavery;
- it highlights for its suppliers any risks identified concerning modern slavery and refers them to the relevant agencies to be addressed;
- it refers for investigation via the National Crime Agency's national referral mechanism any of its contractors identified as a cause for concern regarding modern slavery; and
- it reports publicly on the implementation of this policy annually.

And ask the Chief Executive to write to the Government to ask that they:

- Commit to improved standards of protecting all victims, regardless of their nationality, and put those standards into law.
- Ensure all victims are supported through their trauma, and protected from their traffickers. The government should work with civil society to build a comprehensive long-term system of protection for all victims of modern slavery practices.
- Develop a child advocates scheme to protect trafficked children should

be rolled out as soon as possible. We still see children going missing from the care of authorities at 'alarming' rate.

- Restore the full right for migrant domestic workers to change employers, to give them a route out of abuse. The ability to legally leave one's abusive employer without worrying about deportation is the most basic protection everyone should have.
- Invest: The police need resources to carry out complex trafficking investigations. In the current climate of cuts, these often complex investigations are too often bumped down in the priority order for more 'urgent' work, with results easier to show.
- Ensure that in its Brexit negotiations, the UK it retains full access to European intelligence and mechanisms making international investigations possible.
- Review the performance of the Transparency in Supply Chains Clause of the Modern Slavery Act, to identify where it can be strengthened to ensure that efforts against slavery in international business supply chains are optimised."

**93 Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Child Sexual Exploitation**

It was moved by Councillor D Hall and seconded by Councillor Patrick;

"That this Council resolves that the Leader of the Council should write to the Home Secretary for the purposes of inviting the Minister to cause an inquiry to be held under the provisions of the Inquiries Act 2005 in relation to a case where it appears to him that particular events have caused, or are capable of causing, public concern, those events being the conviction of a number of individuals from the Kirklees area for offences of Child Sexual Exploitation and the ongoing prosecution of a number of other individuals from the same area for offences of Child Sexual Exploitation."

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Pandor, and seconded by Councillor Lawson, by way of AMENDMENT that;

"This Council resolves that, in light of the recent widely publicised cases relating to CSE in this area, the Leader of the Council should write to the Home Secretary for the purposes of inviting the Minister to cause an inquiry to be held under the provision of the Inquiries Act 2005 in relation to a case where it appears to him that particular events have caused, or are capable of causing, public concern, those events being the conviction of a large number of individuals, across England, for offences of child sexual exploitation; specifically to examine the role of public bodies and statutory agencies charged with protecting children and apprehending and convicting criminals.

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This Council notes that the Kirklees Safeguarding Children's Board has commissioned an independent review into child sexual exploitation, the outcomes of which will be made public."

The AMENDMENT, on being put to the vote, was CARRIED. The SUBSTANTIVE MOTION was put to the vote and it was;

### **RESOLVED –**

(1) That, in light of the recent widely publicised cases relating to CSE in this area, the Leader of the Council should write to the Home Secretary for the purposes of inviting the Minister to cause an inquiry to be held under the provision of the Inquiries Act 2005 in relation to a case where it appears to him that particular events have caused, or are capable of causing, public concern, those events being the conviction of a large number of individuals, across England, for offences of child sexual exploitation; specifically to examine the role of public bodies and statutory agencies charged with protecting children and apprehending and convicting criminals.

(2) That this Council notes that the Kirklees Safeguarding Children's Board has commissioned an independent review into child sexual exploitation, the outcomes of which will be made public.