

COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, 20th September,
2023
at 2.00 pm

Council Chamber - Civic Centre

This meeting is open to the public

Members of the Council

The Lord Mayor – Chair

The Sheriff – Vice-chair

Leader of the Council

Members of the Council (See overleaf)

Contacts

Director of Governance, Legal and HR

Richard Ivory

Tel 023 8083 2794

Email: richard.ivory@southampton.gov.uk

Senior Democratic Support Officer

Judy Cordell

Tel: 023 8083 2766

Email: judy.cordell@southampton.gov.uk

WARD	COUNCILLOR	WARD	COUNCILLOR
Banister & Polygon	Evemy Leggett Windle	Peartree	Houghton Keogh Letts
Bargate	Bogle Noon Dr. Paffey	Portswood	Barbour Finn Savage
Bassett	Blackman Chapment Wood	Redbridge	Goodfellow McEwing Whitbread
Bevois	Denness Kataria Rayment	Shirley	Kaur Quadir Winning
Bitterne Park	Barnes-Andrews T Bunday Webb	Sholing	J Baillie Beaurain Powell-Vaughan
Coxford	Greenhalgh McCreanor Renyard	Swaythling	M Bunday Fielker Mrs Mintoff
Freemantle	Kenny Lambert Shields	Thornhill	Allen A Frampton Y Frampton
Harefield	Laurent P Baillie Fitzhenry	Woolston	Mrs Blatchford Payne Ugwoeme
Millbrook	Cox Galton Moulton		

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Role of the Council

The Council comprises all 48 Councillors. The Council normally meets six times a year including the annual meeting, at which the Lord Mayor and the Council Leader are elected and committees and sub-committees are appointed, and the budget meeting, at which the Council Tax is set for the following year.

The Council approves the policy framework, which is a series of plans and strategies recommended by the Executive, which set out the key policies and programmes for the main services provided by the Council. It receives a summary report of decisions made by the Executive, and reports on specific issues raised by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee. The Council also considers questions and motions submitted by Council Members on matters for which the Council has a responsibility or which affect the City.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Questions:- People who live or work in the City may ask questions of the Lord Mayor, Chairs of Committees and Members of the Executive. (See the Council's Constitution ref Part 4 Council Procedure Rules 10.8)

Petitions:- At a meeting of the Council any Member or member of the public may present a petition which is submitted in accordance with the Council's scheme for handling petitions. Petitions containing more than 1,500 signatures (qualifying) will be debated at a Council meeting. (See the Council's Constitution ref Part 4 Council Procedure Rules 10.1)

Representations:- At the discretion of the Lord Mayor, members of the public may address the Council on any report included on the agenda in which they have a relevant interest. Any member of the public wishing to address the meeting should advise the Democratic Support Officer (DSO) whose contact details are on the front sheet of the agenda.

Deputations:- A deputation of up to three people can apply to address the Council. A deputation may include the presentation of a petition. (See the Council's Constitution ref Part 4 Council Procedure Rules 10.7)

MEETING INFORMATION

Use of Social Media:- The Council supports the video or audio recording of meetings open to the public, for either live or subsequent broadcast. However, if, in the Chair's opinion, a person filming or recording a meeting or taking photographs is interrupting proceedings or causing a disturbance, under the Council's Standing Orders the person can be ordered to stop their activity, or to leave the meeting. By entering the meeting room you are consenting to being recorded and to the use of those images and recordings for broadcasting and or/training purposes. The meeting may be recorded by the press or members of the public.

Any person or organisation filming, recording or broadcasting any meeting of the Council is responsible for any claims or other liability resulting from them doing so.

Details of the Council's Guidance on the recording of meetings is available on the Council's website.

Mobile Telephones – Please switch your mobile telephones or other IT to silent whilst in the meeting.

Southampton: Corporate Plan 2022-2030 sets out the four key outcomes:

- Communities, culture & homes - Celebrating the diversity of cultures within Southampton; enhancing our cultural and historical offer and using these to help transform our communities.
- Green City - Providing a sustainable, clean, healthy and safe environment for everyone. Nurturing green spaces and embracing our waterfront.
- Place shaping - Delivering a city for future generations. Using data, insight and vision to meet the current and future needs of the city.
- Wellbeing - Start well, live well, age well, die well; working with other partners and other services to make sure that customers get the right help at the right time

Access – Access is available for disabled people. Please contact the Council Administrator who will help to make any necessary arrangements

Smoking policy – The Council operates a no-smoking policy in all civic buildings

Fire Procedure – In the event of a fire or other emergency, a continuous alarm will sound and you will be advised by Council officers what action to take.

Proposed dates of meetings	
2023	2024
19 July	21 February (Budget)
20 September	20 March
15 November	15 May (AGM)

CONDUCT OF MEETING

FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

The functions of the Council are set out in Article 4 of Part 2 of the Constitution

RULES OF PROCEDURE

The meeting is governed by the Council Procedure Rules as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution.

BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED

Only those items listed on the attached agenda may be considered at this meeting.

QUORUM

The minimum number of appointed Members required to be in attendance to hold the meeting is 17.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Members are required to disclose, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, **both** the existence **and** nature of any "Disclosable Pecuniary Interest" or "Other Interest" they may have in relation to matters for consideration on this Agenda.

DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

A Member must regard himself or herself as having a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter that they or their spouse, partner, a person they are living with as husband or wife, or a person with whom they are living as if they were a civil partner in relation to:

- (i) Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
- (ii) Sponsorship: Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from Southampton City Council) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expense incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
- (iii) Any contract which is made between you / your spouse etc (or a body in which the you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interest) and Southampton City Council under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed, and which has not been fully discharged.
- (iv) Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of Southampton.
- (v) Any license (held alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of Southampton for a month or longer.
- (vi) Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) the landlord is Southampton City Council and the tenant is a body in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interests.
- (vii) Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of Southampton, and either:
 - a) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body, or
 - b) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interest that exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

Other Interests

A Member must regard himself or herself as having an, 'Other Interest' in any membership of, or occupation of a position of general control or management in:

Any body to which they have been appointed or nominated by Southampton City Council

Any public authority or body exercising functions of a public nature

Any body directed to charitable purposes

Any body whose principal purpose includes the influence of public opinion or policy

Principles of Decision Making

All decisions of the Council will be made in accordance with the following principles:-

- proportionality (i.e. the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome);
- due consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers;
- respect for human rights;
- a presumption in favour of openness, accountability and transparency;
- setting out what options have been considered;
- setting out reasons for the decision; and
- clarity of aims and desired outcomes.

In exercising discretion, the decision maker must:

- understand the law that regulates the decision making power and gives effect to it. The decision-maker must direct itself properly in law;
- take into account all relevant matters (those matters which the law requires the authority as a matter of legal obligation to take into account);
- leave out of account irrelevant considerations;
- act for a proper purpose, exercising its powers for the public good;
- not reach a decision which no authority acting reasonably could reach, (also known as the "rationality" or "taking leave of your senses" principle);
- comply with the rule that local government finance is to be conducted on an annual basis. Save to the extent authorised by Parliament, 'live now, pay later' and forward funding are unlawful; and
- act with procedural propriety in accordance with the rules of fairness.

Richard Ivory, Solicitor
Director of Governance, Legal and HR
Civic Centre, Southampton, SO14 7LY

Tuesday, 12 September 2023

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the COUNCIL to be held on WEDNESDAY, 20TH SEPTEMBER, 2023 in the COUNCIL CHAMBER CIVIC CENTRE at 2:00pm when the following business is proposed to be transacted:-

1 APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies.

2 MINUTES (Pages 1 - 10)

To authorise the signing of the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 19th July 2023, attached.

3 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LORD MAYOR AND LEADER

Matters especially brought forward by the Lord Mayor and the Leader.

4 DEPUTATIONS, PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

To receive any requests for Deputations, Presentation of Petitions or Public Questions.

5 EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

Verbal report of the Leader of the Council.

6 MOTIONS

(a) Moved by Cllr Noon

Over the last 10 years we have seen a loss of confidence by many communities in the Police. In the retail sector, data released by the Co-op (July 27th 2023) revealed the highest ever level of retail crime.

This Council notes that due to Conservative government austerity 20,000 experience police officers were made redundant.

Council further notes that after accepting that this austerity measure was a massive error the Conservative government has reversed this policy. However, this is yet to have any significant impact on the level of retail crime in Southampton.

Southampton city Council stands with Unions and employers in calling on Hampshire police and Crime commissioner Donna Jones to act on improving retail workers'

protection in Southampton, by prioritising the response to and investigate all retail crime. This Council request that the Cabinet Member writes to the Police and Crime Commissioner and invites her as a matter of urgency to meet local unions and business representatives to discuss a plan of action on retail crime.”

(b) Moved by Councillor Blackman

Council notes the implementation of 20mph zones in residential areas across the city and the widespread support for them. Furthermore, Council agrees that the implementation of the remaining areas where 20mph zones have not yet been established should take place as soon as possible.

Similarly, Council notes the reduction of speed limits on a number of roads from 40mph to 30mph, including Bassett Avenue and Bassett Green Road, and the positive impact this has had.

However, residents regularly express serious concerns about speeding on residential roads and the lack of enforcement of speed limits. Residents are rightly concerned about the dangers posed by speeding vehicles and should be able to feel safe in going about their daily lives.

Council therefore calls for increased efforts to tackle the problem of speeding, including installation of more roundels on the road surface to remind motorists of the speed limits and more effective and permanent use of electronic signs.

7 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO THE CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES OR THE MAYOR

To consider any question of which notice has been given under Council Procedure Rule 11.2.

8 APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES

To deal with any appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees or other bodies as required.

NOTE: There will be prayers by Fr. Anthony Chiatu Njingo in the Mayor’s Reception Room at 1.45 pm for Members of the Council and Officers who wish to attend.



Richard Ivory
Director – Governance, Legal and HR

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SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19 JULY 2023

Present:

The Mayor, Councillor Laurent
The Sheriff, Councillor Shields
Councillors Allen, J Baillie, Blackman, Mrs Blatchford, Barbour, Barnes-Andrews, Beaurain, Bogle, M Bunday, T Bunday, Chapman, Cox, Denness, Every, Fielker, Finn, Fitzhenry, A Frampton, Y Frampton, Galton, Goodfellow, Greenhalgh, Houghton, Kataria, Kaur, Kenny, Keogh, Lambert, Leggett, Letts, McCreanor, McEwing, Mrs Mintoff, Noon, Dr Paffey (except items 22-28), W Payne, Powell-Vaughan (except items 29-32), Quadir, Rayment, Renyard, Savage, Ugwoeme, Webb, Whitbread, Windle, Winning and Wood

22. APOLOGIES

It was noted that apologies had been received from Councillors P Baillie, Moulton and Wood.

23. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council Annual General Meeting held on the 17th May 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record.

24. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LORD MAYOR AND LEADER

Announcements from the Lord Mayor:

- (i) Following the Coxford Ward Election on 22nd June 2023, the Lord Mayor welcomed Councillors Greenhalgh and McCreanor and returning to the Council, Councillor Renyard.
- (ii) The Lord Mayor announced that the meeting was open to being filmed and reminded those filming that the right to film was limited to the duration of the meeting and recording must cease when the meeting closed. Filming or recording was not permitted if the effect would be to interrupt or disturb the proceedings or if it was intrusive of a specific individual or individuals. If in her opinion this was occurring, it would not be permitted, and she would ask you to stop. Similarly, some members of the public attending the meeting may object to being filmed, photographed or recorded. The Lord Mayor would be making those attending the meeting today aware and would ask those filming, to respect their wishes, and would expect that these were complied with.
- (iii) The Lord Mayor reminded Members that on 27th July 1998 tragedy struck on board a Seaplane in the Solent. On that day we sadly lost the Mayor Mr Michael Andrews who was representing the City on a flight across the Solent. She invited all to remember that day and the tragedy that unfolded as we approach the 25 year anniversary.

Announcements from the Leader:

- (i) The Leader welcomed the new Coxford Members. Recognising that as a result of the Election, the Administration were represented by 50% women and this achievement should be recognised.
- (ii) The Leader thanked officers for the work undertaken ensuring that Coxford residents had access to Councillors and their casework was resolved during the recent unprecedented period as the Election was rightfully postponed.
- (iii) The Leader formally announced changes to Cabinet. Councillor Renyard had been appointed to Safer City, changes had been made to responsibilities within the Portfolio and that of Communities and Leisure to reflect the return of Councillor Renyard to his previous role. Councillor Leggett had stood down from Finance and Change and been replaced by Councillor Letts who had previously held office as the Cabinet Member for Finance as well as Leader of the Council, and that Waste would be moving to Environment and Transport.
- (iv) The Leader thanked Councillor Leggett for his five year term of office as Cabinet Member and for all of his hard work and commitment during this time in the various roles he had held.

25. DEPUTATIONS, PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

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

26. REVENUE AND CAPITAL OUTTURN 2022/23

Report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Change detailing the Revenue and Capital Outturn for 2022/23.

RESOLVED: to

General Fund – Revenue

- i) Notes the General Fund revenue outturn for 2022/23 has been balanced by drawing down £11.38M from reserves to meet the year-end deficit, as outlined in paragraph 4 and in paragraph 2 of Appendix 1.
- ii) Notes the performance of individual portfolios in managing their budgets as set out in paragraphs 3 to 7 of Appendix 1 and Annex 1.1.
- iii) Agrees the requests to carry forward un-ringfenced grant funding totalling £0.16M as outlined in paragraph 8 of Appendix 1.
- iv) Notes the performance of the Property Investment Fund (PIF) as detailed in paragraphs 9 to 11 of Appendix 1 and Annex 1.2.

Housing Revenue Account

- v) Notes the HRA revenue outturn for 2022/23 as outlined in paragraph 7 and paragraph 22 of Appendix 1 and Annex 1.4.

Capital Programme

- vi) Notes the actual capital spending in 2022/23 for the General Fund was £62.94M and for the HRA was £35.88M, as outlined in paragraphs 10 and 11 below and detailed in paragraphs 2 to 5 of Appendix 2.
- vii) Notes the capital financing in 2022/23 as shown in table 3 of Appendix 2.
- viii) Approves the revised capital programme for 2022/23 to 2027/28 and its financing as summarised in paragraph 10 of Appendix 2 and detailed in Annex 2.2.
- ix) Approves the latest prudential indicators for the revised capital programme as detailed in Annex 2.3.

27. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC - EXEMPT PAPERS INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM (IF NEEDED)

The Lord Mayor moved 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 exempt appendices to the following Item.

Appendix 12 and Appendix 13 are exempt from publication by virtue of category 3 of rule 10.4 of the council's Access to Information Procedure Rules i.e. information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person. It is not in the public interest to disclose this information due to an ongoing commercial dispute which is subject to a protected alternative dispute resolution procedure. If the information was disclosed then the Council's financial position would be available to other parties to the dispute and prejudice the Council's ability to achieve best value.

28. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY UPDATE

Report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Change detailing the Medium Term Financial Strategy Update.

RESOLVED: to

General Fund – Revenue

- i) Notes the updated budget position and MTFs forecast.
- ii) Notes the content of the draft CIPFA Review report at Appendix 1 and the further work that CIPFA are undertaking to support the council in improving its financial position.
- iii) Agrees the approach as outlined in the Financial Strategy set out below (paras 24 to 31).
- iv) Agrees to the setting up of a voluntary improvement board as outlined in paragraph 29.
- v) Supports and endorses a move to 'cash limited' budgets for each service, which is intended to reinforce accountability and control. See paragraphs 49 to 54 on how this will operate.
- vi) Agrees the Reserves Policy at Appendix 4.
- vii) Agrees the parameters for the fees & charges policy as set out in paragraphs 69 to 79.

- viii) Approves the in-year budget cost control measures, which are mitigation to ensure the council lives within its agreed budget for 2023/24 attached at Appendix 6.
- ix) Agrees the procurement strategy and procurement forward programme 2023-25 contained at paragraph 108, appendix 7 and Annex 7.1 to go forward to procurement, subject to review of the Cost Control Panel.
- x) Agrees the proposed revisions to the Financial Procedure Rules as described in paragraphs 54 and 113 to 117, and set out in detail at Appendix 9, subject to any comments and changes once this change has been considered at Governance Committee.
- xi) Agrees to delegate authority to the Executive Director Corporate Services (S151 Officer), following consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member, to accept Health Determinants Research Collaboration funding and approve spend in the event the funding is received (see paragraphs 99 to 102).

Housing Revenue Account

- xii) Notes the budget pressures facing the Housing Revenue Account and the measures being considered to mitigate these set out in Appendix 12.
- xiii) Approves the approach to recovering costs of the Landlord Controlled Heating Account as set out in paragraphs 123 to 130 and specifically option 2 of a phased increase over five years.

Capital Programme

- xiv) Approves the creation of a new Strategic Capital Board (para 114), with its terms of reference given in Appendix 8.
- xv) Approves an indicator limit of no more than 11% for the ratio of capital financing to the Net Revenue Budget of the council for the General Fund. This is a key Prudential Indicator which will limit the scale of the capital programme's impact on the revenue budget (see paras 42 and 45).
- xvi) Approves the in-year budget adjustments to the General Fund capital programme, as detailed in paragraph 117.
- xvii) Supports the aim of reviewing the whole capital programme against the criteria of Purposeful Investment (see paragraphs 30 and 113-117).
- xviii) Notes the plans for transformation and agrees the delegation to the Executive Director Corporate Services to apply, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Change and subject to a business case, capital receipts to the transformation programme in line with the strategy agreed at the February 2023 council meeting. The current balance held on capital receipts is around £2.8M.

29. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

A verbal report of the Leader of the Council was given setting out the details of the business undertaken by the Executive.

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

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

1. Improved Bus Routes

Councillor Blackman to Councillor Keogh

QUESTION: With some areas of the city in 'bus deserts', including the Sports Centre which is planned for modernisation, could the Cabinet Member report on progress to improve the coverage of bus routes in the city?

ANSWER: The Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) sets out a vision for buses in Southampton. As part of the BSIP, the Council has now entered into an Enhanced Partnership with local bus operators (March 2023). The Enhanced Partnership sets out obligations on The Council and on local bus operators to achieving the ambitions in the BSIP. The Enhanced Partnership has set up a new governance board where issues such as new bus network planning will be discussed and worked through with bus operators and the Council.

The bus network is currently under a review following the withdrawal of a bus operator (First Bus) in Feb 2023 and the subsequent taking over of the majority of those routes by Bluestar (Go South Coast Group). The Council will work with Bluestar via the Enhanced Partnership to review the bus network to ensure that it is sustainable and fit for purpose for Southampton.

2. Budget

Councillor Fitzhenry to Councillor Kaur

QUESTION: Can the leader confirm when she first knew of the councils revised budget black hole?

ANSWER: The Cabinet and I have been discussing the financial position since February. We have had regular meetings with the Executive Management Team to develop the plan that is presented today. The financial situation at the start of any year is a developing one especially this year with the increasing economic pressure the council and residents are facing, hence we have requested some external validation of the forecast.

3. St. Mary's Leisure Centre

Councillor Fitzhenry to Councillor Kaur

QUESTION: Can the leader give a personal commitment that St. Mary's Leisure Centre will stay open given the significant financial challenges the council faces?

ANSWER: Yes.

4. Grass Cutting Service

Councillor Galton to Councillor Keogh

QUESTION: Given the numerous complaints over the length of uncut grass, especially in the west of the City and within our cemetery grounds, will the Cabinet Member commit to not cutting these staff and improving the service levels to meet our tax payers expectations of a basic service?

ANSWER: The number of complaints about our green spaces is low. In the last 12 months there have been 44 service requests (24 of these in the West operating district), and 14 complaints received via customer services. Considering that the warm and wet spring in 2023 that saw accelerated grass growth in the city I feel the performance of our teams has been good and should be commended. Several of the service requests were invalid, involving customers asking for us to cut areas that are designated to encourage wildlife - these are not on our spring and summer mowing programmes.

Regarding cemeteries, there is a proposal to remove a vacant part-time post in bereavement which will not impact on existing level of grounds maintenance. We employ a small number of permanent posts alongside seasonal temporary workers to maintain city cemeteries. It is more cost effective to employ seasonal temporary workers than to employ additional permanent staff. In some areas of our cemeteries we are not allowed to cut the grass due to ecology restrictions regarding wild orchids and butterflies.

5. SEND Programme

Councillor J Baillie to Councillor Winning

QUESTION: Does the updated financial situation of the council mean that there will be further reductions/cuts to the SEND expansion programme?

ANSWER: No.

6. Medium Term Financial Strategy Update

Councillor Blackman to Councillor Leggett (Councillor Letts responded)

QUESTION: Further to the publication of the Medium Term Financial Strategy Update will the Cabinet Member and the Administration do everything to ensure that Southampton City Council's destiny remains in its own hands?

ANSWER: Yes, but we have a lot of work to do, from my initial analysis we have a clear and workable plan which I hope to deliver and give clear updates to you as Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee and other Members as appropriate.

7. Financial Risk

Councillor Moulton to Councillor Leggett (Councillor Letts responded)

QUESTION: In light of the council's perilous financial position and given the risks involved, was it really wise or responsible for the Labour Council to have planned to borrow £27M to fund an office block on the Toys R Us site?

ANSWER: The decision on any investment made by the Council, in public buildings or commercial buildings, is usually based on whether we can get a good return or by investing we can generate a quicker return than we would otherwise get from a site. So in the past we have made investments where this has enabled a particular development to come forward faster and we can then take an income from accrued business rates. As I am aware the Council has no current proposal to support this particular development, and bearing in mind I have been in the role for approximately 24 hours and I haven't had the time to definitely check that, but my gut reaction is that an investment of this type at this time, would not be a decision that I would support.

8. City of Culture Legacy Funding

Councillor Moulton to Councillor Leggett (Councillor Letts responded)

QUESTION: Given the Labour Administration is now looking at significant cuts to core council services, was it really appropriate to commit an extra £1.2M to supporting the new Cultural Trust to fund Southampton's City of Culture bid 'legacy'?

ANSWER: My understanding is that a sum of money has been pledged, but in return for that sum it would lead to significant investment in the City by Arts Council England. Part of that investment is to replace the roof on the Art Gallery, which has been hanging over this Council for 15 years and to see that roof replaced and the Art Gallery, which is one of the jewels in our crown protected, I think offers good value for money. In addition to that there is significant other investment coming in from the Arts Council on the basis of our continued support for arts and heritage built on the bid for City of Culture last year. A bid that we were encouraged to put forward by Arts Council England. So it is about working with partners to get the best deal for the City.

9. Finance

Councillor Galton to Councillor Kaur

QUESTION: Do you regret not getting more involved in understanding, as you previously described it, the "financial stuff"?

ANSWER: To reassure you and Members I am heavily involved and have been throughout on the Council's finances. Just because at a previous meeting I highlighted that we have a finance lead on my Cabinet, does not mean that I am not also involved. In fact there is a collective response from the Cabinet who are all equally committed to Council finances and having a sustainable organisation. I meet and discuss the finances of Council with the Executive Management Team and my Cabinet on a very regular basis. The plan presented in today's Medium Term Financial Strategy is a plan that I have personally been heavily involved with, it is a plan supported by Auditors, CIPFA and Government who have confidence in our leadership to deliver it.

10. Carbon Neutral Target

Councillor Barbour to Councillor Keogh

QUESTION: Does the carbon neutral target in the Green City Charger relate to the operations of the city council or all the activities, businesses and services that operate within the city?

ANSWER: The Green City Charter (2019) established a vision and a set of commitments that seek to deliver far-reaching change to our environment. It provides a framework for city stakeholders to aspire to and over 100 residents, businesses and organisations joined the Council in doing so. The Charter was developed in partnership with the founding signatories and a carbon neutral target of 2030 was included, providing the opportunity for signatories to use offsetting to reduce their carbon footprint.

The Council went on to establish its own plans, adopting the Green City Plan in 2020 and confirming that carbon emissions from its own operations and services would seek to be net zero by 2030. That involves taking practical steps to reduce emissions and using offsetting as a last resort.

In the Council's Corporate Plan 2022/30 the concept of Southampton becoming a zero Carbon City by 2035 was introduced. This would encompass all emissions within the city including those which, to date, have not been captured by more specific goals set by individuals and organisations.

30. MOTIONS

(a) Councillor Goodfellow moved and seconded by Councillor Keogh

Southampton's School Street programme has proven to be very successful and popular with parents and children alike, creating safer, healthier, and happier environments across our city.

As a Council we value the support of the many volunteers who are integral to this programme. However, we understand the challenges many schools face in operating school street closures.

Council therefore commends the actions of the Executive in applying for powers to enforce moving traffic violations through the use of automated number plate recognition cameras and we urge Government to grant permission sooner rather than later and for additional resources to be provided.

Amendment moved by Councillor Fitzhenry and seconded by Councillor J Baillie

3rd paragraph, 1st line after "of the" delete "executive" and insert "previous Conservative Administration for preparing for the statutory consultation and the current Labour Administration for progressing this and"

3rd paragraph, 1st line delete "in" and insert "and"

3rd paragraph, 3rd line after "cameras" delete "and"

3rd paragraph, 4th line after "later" insert "noting this is anticipated to be by the end of July and for additional resources to be provided."

3rd paragraph,4th line insert after “provided” “such as through future Active Travel Fund awards. Council urges the Executive to progress use of its own allocated LTP capital budget of £30k for the installation of new camera sites and associated signage”.

Insert new paragraph 4 “Furthermore, Council believes that these powers should only be used to improve road safety and not as revenue raising opportunity. Finally, Council believes that camera enforcement should be used as an additional tool to improve safe travel to schools and not as a substitute for school crossing patrols and where there are vacant school crossing patrol posts every effort should be made to fill these positions”.

AMENDED MOTION TO READ:

Southampton’s School Street programme has proven to be very successful and popular with parents and children alike, creating safer, healthier, and happier environments across our city.

As a Council we value the support of the many volunteers who are integral to this programme. However, we understand the challenges many schools face in operating school street closures.

Council therefore commends the actions of the previous Conservative Administration for preparing for the statutory consultation and the current Labour Administration for progressing this and applying for powers, to enforce moving traffic violations through the use of automated number plate recognition cameras. We urge Government to grant permission sooner rather than later, noting this is anticipated to be by the end of July and for additional resources to be provided, such as through future Active Travel Fund awards. Council urges the Executive to progress use of its own allocated LTP capital budget of £30k for the installation of new camera sites and associated signage.

Furthermore, Council believes that these powers should only be used to improve road safety and not as revenue raising opportunity. Finally, Council believes that camera enforcement should be used as an additional tool to improve safe travel to schools and not as a substitute for school crossing patrols and where there are vacant school crossing patrol posts every effort should be made to fill these positions.

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR FITZHENRY WAS DECLARED LOST

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE SUBSTANTIVE MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR GOODFELLOW WAS DECLARED CARRIED

RESOLVED that the motion be approved.

- (b) Councillor Fitzhenry moved and seconded by Councillor Galton a late Motion tabled and further amended at the meeting

Southampton Council is facing the worst financial crisis in its history. Labour, led by Councillor Kaur and the Cabinet Member for Finance Councillor Leggett has brought corporate bankruptcy to be a real possibility for our city inflicting a huge negative impact on our city’s residents and businesses for years to come.

As such, it is this council's belief that in these dire circumstances Councillor Kaur should resign immediately and allow some other person with greater financial acumen and a solid plan to take over and lead the city through this very difficult and sad period.

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR FITZHENRY WAS DECLARED LOST

RESOLVED that the late, amended motion be rejected.

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

It was noted that no requests for Questions from Members to the Chairs of Committees or the Lord Mayor had been received.

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

It was agreed Councillor Renyard be appointed to the Police and Crime Panel.

It was noted that at the request of the Leader the allocation of seats to Governance Committee was increased from 5 to 7. Members appointed to Governance Committee were Councillors McEwing, A. Frampton, Denness, Rayment, McCreanor, P Baillie and Chapman and that Councillor A Frampton was elected as Chair.

It was noted that dispensation had been given for Councillor Paffey to be appointed to Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to take account of the firebreak rules in the Constitution.

The following changes to Committee membership were also noted.

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee: Councillor Lambert to replace Councillor Letts and Councillor Greenhalgh to replace Councillor Rayment. The Election of a Vice-Chair would take place at the next meeting of the Committee.

Licensing Committee: Councillor Moulton to replace Councillor J Baillie and Councillor A Bunday to replace Councillor A Frampton.

Planning and Rights of Way Panel: Councillor J Baillie to replace Councillor Powell-Vaughan.

Children and Families Scrutiny Panel: Councillor Webb to replace Councillor Quadir.