

COUNCIL DECISIONS / ACTIONS - 20 SEPTEMBER 2017

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER	SUBJECT AND DECISION	DECISION REFERRAL	PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTION
1(b)	<p>Minutes That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 19 July 2017 be approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.</p>	-	Committee Services and Scrutiny Manager
1(c)	<p>Disclosure of Interests Councillor Petchey disclosed a personal interest in item 5(b) 3 (Urban Capacity Study) as a member of Campbell Park Parish Council as the Amendment to the Motion reference to Springfield which was within the Campbell Park Parish area. Councillors Gowans, McLean, Middleton, Nolan, Small, Walker and P Williams disclosed personal interests in item 5(b) 2 (Public sector Pay) as public sector employees.</p>	-	-
2(a)	<p>Petitions</p> <p>Road Safety Issues - St Ledger Drive, Great Linford The petition was referred to the Cabinet for consideration.</p> <p>Urban Capacity Study - Land in Campbell Park and Old Woughton Ward The petition was referred to the Cabinet for consideration.</p> <p>Change of Use of Part of the Co-op Shop on Grange Farm to a Funeral Parlour The petition was referred to the Cabinet for consideration.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Cabinet</p> <p>Development Control Committee</p>	<p>Committee Services and Scrutiny Manager</p> <p>Committee Services and Scrutiny Manager</p> <p>Committee Services and Scrutiny Manager</p>

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2(b)	<p>Questions from Members of the Public</p> <p>(a) Councillor Legg to provide a written response to questions from objectors to the use of part of the Co-op Shop on Grange Farm as a Funeral Parlour</p> <p>(b) Councillor O'Neill to meet with residents from the Asian Community to discuss the increase in burglaries of their homes. The Head of Community Safety and a Police representative to be invited to attend the meeting.</p> <p>(c) Mr M Galloway to be provided with a written response as to the current position with the Highway Design Guide and reasoning why the new Multi-Modal Model was not being used to inform current planning applications.</p>	-	<p>Councillor Legg / Head of Planning</p> <p>PA to Leader and Cabinet Member</p> <p>Head of Planning and Head of Transport</p>
4.	<p>Report from the Standards Committee</p> <p>That the report be noted.</p>	-	-
5(a)	<p>Councillors' Questions</p> <p>(a) Councillor Gowans to raise co-ordination between Highways and Transport Departments with officer colleagues.</p> <p>(b) Councillor Middleton to provide Councillor P Geary with a response relating to compliance with Building Control requirements for the Civic Offices refurbishment.</p>	-	<p>Councillor Gowans / Service Director (Public Realm)</p> <p>Councillor Middleton / Service Director (Legal and Democratic Services)</p>

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5(a) (cont)	<p>Councillors' Questions</p> <p>(c) Councillor Marland to respond to Councillor Geaney on officer colleagues complying with a committee's request to invite a person to attend a meeting.</p> <p>(d) Councillor Gowans to inform Councillor Eastman of the reasons why four roads in Newport Pagnell have been resurfaced twice in a matter of months and include the costs of the works in his reply.</p> <p>(e) Councillor Gowans to inform Councillor McLean when representations to Central Bedfordshire Council had been made requesting that the weight restriction on the road between Fen Street and Salford be removed so that lorries were able to take a shorter route avoiding the villages.</p>	<p>-</p> <p>-</p>	<p>Councillor Marland / Service Director (Legal and Democratic Services)</p> <p>Councillor Gowans / Head of Highways</p>
5(b) 1	<p>Local Authority Funding</p> <p>1. That this Council notes that:</p> <p>(a) local government has faced the most severe austerity spending cuts from Central Government imposed on any sector;</p> <p>(b) the Revenue Support Grant received by Milton Keynes Council has been cut by £74m since 2010, and by 2020 Milton Keynes Council will receive no revenue funding from Central Government;</p> <p>(c) in the same period since 2010 demand for services in Milton Keynes has risen by at least £89m;</p>		

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5(b) 1 (cont)	<p>Local Authority Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) the total level of cuts after revenue received from extra Council Tax, income and Business Rates has been over £130m; and (e) the longer austerity continues the harder it is to maintain services to a level the public and this Council would like, and that the impact on services has been real and consequential. <p>2. That this Council further notes that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Central Government had promised by 2020 Local Government would be able to retain 100% of the Business Rates it raises in their local areas; (b) the Local Government Association was working with the Department of Local Government to implement such a scheme and pilots had been established; (c) the Local Government Finance White Paper was withdrawn without consultation from the Queen’s Speech, which covers two legislative years, and replaced with a vague proposal to consult on future finance; (d) the Conservative Chair of the Local Government Association, Lord Porter, has stated publicly that abandoning the Local Government Finance White Paper without an alternative in place before the end of Revenue Support Grant in 2020 places Local Government ‘on a financial cliff edge’; (e) the promise in the Conservative Manifesto to implement a “Dementia Tax,” was a misguided attempt to address the growing underfunding of adult social care, and disappeared without a trace, like much of the Conservative Manifesto; (f) New Home Bonus, which replaced Growth Area Funding, has been substantially reduced; 		

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5(b) 1 (cont)	<p>Local Authority Funding</p> <p>(g) the £1.5billion found to fund the Conservative Government's deal with the Democratic Unionist Party would be enough to fund Milton Keynes Council Public Realm services for 40 years, and shows that the Government imposition for austerity for 7 years and into the future is a political choice and</p> <p>(h) despite a growing acceptance and belief by a majority of the public that they are willing to pay more through taxation to protect all front line services and particularly look after the most vulnerable in society this Conservative Government has ignored such a growing view.</p> <p>3. That the Council therefore calls on:</p> <p>(a) the Government to abandon austerity and properly fund public services;</p> <p>(b) Milton Keynes' two MPs to call for more funding for Milton Keynes Council and to call on the Prime Minister to reinstate the Local Government Finance Bill;</p> <p>(c) the Government, as a matter of urgency, review all rates of Income Tax and Corporation Tax so that all revenue possibilities are examined with the aim to provide the very funding that Local Government is being starved of in the attempt to provide and protect vital front line services;</p> <p>(d) on Cabinet to highlight the impact of cuts on services in Milton Keynes;</p>	Cabinet	<p>Committee Services and Scrutiny Manager</p> <p>Committee Services and Scrutiny Manager</p> <p>Committee Services and Scrutiny Manager</p> <p>Committee Services and Scrutiny Manager</p>

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5(b) 2 (cont)	<p>Public Sector Pay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (e) the pay squeeze has put pressure on staff recruitment and retention, particularly in areas in competition for staff with the private sector, leading to increased levels of payment for agency staff; and (f) by reversing its cuts to Corporation Tax rates, the Government could meet the £8.5 billion needed in this Parliament to end the pay squeeze across the whole public sector. <p>2. That this Council believes that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) public services and the people who deliver them are important; (b) pay for public sector workers should not be set by arbitrary Government caps, but by initially working with Pay Review Bodies until a better system is in place that will have public confidence, Trade Unions, employers and employees, who can better address the complexity of pay decisions across the sector and services; (c) increases in public sector pay should be met by Central Government funding as the public sector, including local authorities, has faced huge budget cuts, and pay increases should not mean additional budget pressures on frontline services; and 		

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5(b) 2 (cont)	<p>Public Sector Pay</p> <p>(d) the Government stating they intend increases in the pay of some Public Sector workers such as the Police and Prison Officers while leaving other vital Public Sector workers such as Carers and Nurses within the pay cap is divisive and not equitable and further that funding for such an increase is not 'new money' but will cause other cuts elsewhere in public services.</p> <p>3. That this Council supports requests by the general public and trade unions, including the GMB and UNISON, to end the public sector pay pinch and calls on Government to:</p> <p>(a) end the current public sector pay cap altogether and up rate wages in line with inflation;</p> <p>(b) meet these increased costs from new money rather than by cuts from elsewhere within existing departmental and other organisational budgets;</p> <p>(c) implement a REAL living wage both within the public and private sector;</p> <p>(d) end the abuses associated with zero hours contracts; and</p> <p>(e) create a formal right to request a fixed contract.</p>		Committee Services and Scrutiny Manager

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER	SUBJECT AND DECISION	DECISION REFERRAL	PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTION
5(b) 3	<p>Urban Capacity Study</p> <p>With the consent of the Council, Councillor Walker withdrew his motion in respect of the Urban Capacity Study.</p>		-
6.	<p>Appointment of Statutory Officer - Officer Responsible for the Administration of Financial Affairs</p> <p>1. That the designation of Don McLure as the Council's officer responsible for the administration of financial affairs (Section 151 Officer) be confirmed.</p> <p>2. That, with sadness, the ill health of Nicole Jones be noted and the Council's good wishes be sent to her</p>		<p>Chief Executive</p> <p>PA to the Mayor</p>
7.	<p>Quarterly Report on Special Urgency Decisions</p> <p>That the report be noted.</p>		-