

ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

25 July 2017

Commenced: 5.00 pm

Terminated: 6.20 pm

Present: Councillors Kitchen (Chair), Bowerman (Civic Mayor), Affleck, Bailey, Beeley, Bell, Bray, Buckley, Cartey, Cooney, Cooper, Dickinson, Fairfoull, Feeley, J Fitzpatrick, P Fitzpatrick, Fowler, Glover, Gwynne, A Holland, B Holland, Homer, Jackson, Kinsey, D Lane, J Lane, McNally, Middleton, Newton, Patrick, Pearce, Peet, K Quinn, S Quinn, Reid, Ricci, Ryan, Sharif, Sidebottom, M Smith, T Smith, Sweeton, Taylor, F Travis, L Travis, Ward, Warrington, K Welsh, R Welsh, Wild and Wills.

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Bowden, Buglass, Drennan, Piddington, Robinson and Whitehead.

(Councillor Kitchen, Chair of Council Business, in the Chair)

20. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 23 May 2017 be approved as a correct record subject to the Schedule of Appointments being amended to show Councillor R Welsh replacing Councillor Bell as a member of the Education Attainment Improvement Board.

21. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest submitted by Members of the Council.

22. COMMUNICATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Executive Leader began by making reference to the appalling loss of life in recent incidents in Manchester and London and his thoughts were with all those who had been affected. He paid tribute to the first class work of the emergency services who had responded so quickly and examples of humanity at its best where taxi drivers had provided free lifts and many people had donated blood.

He also referred to the General Election in June and shaping a plan for better government and a better country. It was important to start conversations now by demanding clarity on the issues facing the public sector in the short term including funding, social care and Brexit, by making sure communities had a strong voice in Whitehall and the focus for the devolution agenda was the role local and regional government could play in delivering on productivity, jobs and reform.

The Executive Leader continued by informing Members of some governance changes to portfolios he intended to make. He stated that he had received a request from Councillor Robinson, the Executive Member for Children and Families, for a period of absence to attend to health issues. He was strongly of the view that Councillor Robinson's priority must be his health, and in light of the significant statutory responsibilities for his role and the forthcoming months being a critical period in the Ofsted inspection regime, he had asked Councillor J Fitzpatrick, the First Deputy with responsibility for Finance and Performance, to undertake this role until Councillor Robinson recovered to full health and was able to resume his portfolio. Councillor J Fitzpatrick would be supported in this role by Councillors Taylor and Gwynne who had extensive social care experience.

He also reported on new governance arrangements for the Combined Authority and explained that each Authority had been asked to nominate an alternate member of the Combined Authority of the opposite sex to the Authority's Leader of the Council. The Leader advised the Councillor Warrington had been nominated to undertake this role.

In addition, he advised that following nominations being sought from constituent authorities, Councillors Bell, Cartey, Feeley, Pearce, Peet and R. Welsh had been nominated to sit on three newly established Greater Manchester Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

Councillor Travis was pleased to advise on the first of the planned monthly Tameside Coderdojo sessions held at Active Medlock in Droylsden, where young people had the opportunity to learn skills such as building a website, creating an app or game and exploring technology in an informal, creative and social environment. She commented that initiatives such as the Tameside Coderdojo were vital to giving young people the skills they needed to compete for jobs in the modern economy and she thanked all the volunteers who were giving up their time to be mentors.

Councillor L. Travis also made reference to successes in the Manchester Evening News Education Awards 2017 where 6 Tameside schools had been shortlisted. She extended congratulations to Julie Noble, Longdendale High School, as the School Support Staff of the Year winner and Russell Scott Primary School as winner of the School Communication award.

23. COUNCIL BIG CONVERSATION

The Chair reported that there were no questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with Standing Orders 31.12 and 31.13.

24. MEETING OF EXECUTIVE CABINET

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Cabinet held on 28 June 2017. It was moved by Councillor K Quinn, seconded by Councillor Taylor and –

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Executive Cabinet held on 28 June 2017 be received and the following recommendations agreed:

- (i) That the Council Tax Support Scheme for 2018/19 in principle remains the same scheme as that effective from April 2017, subject to annual benefit uprating as detailed in the scheme and any further guidance which may be issued from the Department for Communities and Local Government.**
- (ii) That the amended policies and conditions for private hire and hackney carriage drivers and vehicles be adopted by the Council.**

25. DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES WORKING GROUP

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of the Democratic Processes Working Group held on 17 July 2017. It was moved by Councillor Cooney, seconded by Councillor K Quinn and –

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Democratic Processes Working Group held on 17 July 2017 be received.

26. NOTICE OF MOTION

Consideration was given to the following motion received in accordance with Standing Order 16.1, which was proposed by Councillor Taylor and seconded by Councillor Feeley:

“That this Council notes that a cap on public sector pay has been in force since 2010. During these seven years, pay has been frozen for two and limited to a rise of 1% in the other five. This had led to wage rises being significantly outstripped by inflation, handing millions of public sector workers a real terms pay cut.

Tameside Council values the work of all public servants, a category of employee that includes teachers, firefighters, police officers, nurses and all directly employed workers here at the Council. We believe that the Government should value the work of the nation’s public servants and end the year on year cuts to their wages.

This Council supports the Trade Union campaign led by the GMB to end the public sector pay pinch and calls on the Government to commit to:

*An end to public sector pay cuts;
Proper funding for public services;
Restoration of independence for the Pay Review Bodies;
A real Living Wage of at least £10 an hour for all public sector workers.”*

Upon being put to the vote the Motion was carried and it was therefore –

RESOLVED

That this Council notes that a cap on public sector pay has been in force since 2010. During these seven years, pay has been frozen for two and limited to a rise of 1% in the other five. This had led to wage rises being significantly outstripped by inflation, handing millions of public sector workers a real terms pay cut.

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**An end to public sector pay cuts;
Proper funding for public services;
Restoration of independence for the Pay Review Bodies;
A real Living Wage of at least £10 an hour for all public sector workers.**

27. QUESTIONS

The Chair reported that no questions had been received in accordance with Standing Order 17.2.

28. URGENT ITEMS

The Chair advised that there were no urgent items of business for consideration at this meeting.

CHAIR