

# ***Motions on Notice***



**MOTIONS ON NOTICE**

Council Members are asked to consider the under-mentioned Motions:-

**1. Captain Robert Nairac, Grenadier Guards**

This Council pays tribute to Captain Robert Nairac, of the Grenadier Guards, who was murdered 42 years ago whilst serving in Northern Ireland.

This Council notes the local connection between the Nairac family and the City of Sunderland and will assist in any tribute proposed by the House of Commons.

Councillor R. Oliver  
Councillor Dr. A. Mullen  
Councillor J. Doyle  
Councillor J. McKeith

**2. Protecting Schools from Government Funding Cuts**

This Council notes that as a result of Government cuts to education funding that Sunderland schools:

- Will have lost £22.7 million in overall funding between 2015-2020
- Will have lost the equivalent of £267 per pupil
- Have seen an increase in class sizes
- Are having to bear the brunt of unfunded National Insurance contributions
- Have an inadequate High Needs Block Funding, leaving our most vulnerable pupils without the support they need

Without the support they need **Sunderland Council** resolves:

- To write to the Secretary of State for Education and call for more funding to be invested in education.
- To support the coalition of trade unions campaigning against school cuts.
- To call on the Government to fully fund and fully implement current and future recommendations of the School Teachers' Review Body on teachers' pay

- To remind Parents and Governors of the impact on school budgets of the proposed Government National Funding Formula

Councillor L. Farthing  
 Councillor L. Williams  
 Councillor P. Stewart  
 Councillor K. Chequer  
 Councillor M. Mordey  
 Councillor K. Johnston

Councillor P. Walker  
 Councillor G. Miller  
 Councillor J. Kelly  
 Councillor D. Waller  
 Councillor R. Atkinson

### **3. Housing**

Housing is a fundamental need and decent, affordable housing should be a basic right for everybody in this city. The reason is simple that without stable housing everything else just falls apart. Housing is not only a roof, but social housing provides social innovation, employment services, health services, social inclusion ensuing that the quality of life of its residents is improved.

We ask this council to resolve that they implement the following housing commitments:

- That we prioritise the building of Social Housing and that the builds are to a high specification and lead the way forward using recycled material and green energy in a bid to move towards a stable and de-carbonised economy.
- That the needs of our residents are met by any housing built and future-proofs the city's housing stock.
- That we explore all ownership methods for social housing.
- Ensure that all 2,500 empty properties in Sunderland are brought back into use
- Develop a Homelessness Charter
- Work to prevent homelessness and develop a strategy of sign-posting before people are made homeless.
- Ensure that Veterans and children are a priority in our housing strategies
- Ensure domestic violence sufferers who live in homes in Sunderland are afforded the support they need.
- Ensure that residents in private tenancies are fully supported.
- Work with all registered providers to ensure their stock is well maintained and that they develop schemes to ensure more social housing is available to residents
- We ensure that HMOs are licenced and that owners understand their commitment to the residents who live in them as well as the communities in which they are located.
- We re-introduce the Accredited Landlord Scheme in Sunderland as a whole.

- We ensure that we use all enforcement powers to tackle the problems associated with problematic or empty properties
- Empower residents through housing to ensure they have a stable base which also supports social mobility and works to break down the perceived inequalities associated with social housing

Councillor R. Atkinson  
 Councillor K. Johnston  
 Councillor P. Walker  
 Councillor J. Kelly  
 Councillor L. Williams

Councillor G. Miller  
 Councillor P. Stewart  
 Councillor K. Chequer  
 Councillor M. Mordey

#### **4. Messages of Hope on Bridges**

This Council will work with the community to design and install permanent messages of hope on major bridges in our city to help to prevent suicide and encourage those who are at risk of taking their own life to reconsider and access support.

Councillor D. McDonough  
 Councillor R. Oliver  
 Councillor W. Blackett

#### **5. Timing of Council Meetings**

This Council will rescind the decision taken at the AGM to move the time of full council meetings to 4pm.

Full council will start at 6pm in order to allow members who work usual office hours to attend.

Councillor R. Oliver  
 Councillor J. Doyle  
 Councillor Dr. A. Mullen  
 Councillor J. McKeith  
 Councillor D. McDonough  
 Councillor R. Francis

Councillor W. Blackett  
 Councillor M. Dixon  
 Councillor S. Bewick  
 Councillor P. Mann  
 Councillor S. Leadbitter

#### **6. Leisure Facilities in Sunderland City Centre**

Leisure facilities are one of the key aspects of a city centre which form part of the 'pull factor' in drawing people into the area. Provision of a variety of leisure facilities also adds to the attraction of a retail environment and has the secondary benefit in drawing potential shoppers. Furthermore, the provision of good quality leisure facilities, offering opportunities to take part in physical activity, is a key tool in helping to encourage people to have active and healthy lives, reducing dependence on other hard-pressed services, and can also tackle social isolation.

This Council notes that:

- The former Crowtree Leisure Centre provided facilities in the city for residents to participate in ice skating, indoor bowls, squash and other activities;
- That the part-closure and subsequent demolition of the Crowtree Leisure Centre left residents without these facilities in the local area and now they must travel out of the area to take part in their sporting and leisure activities;
- Resident demand for a replacement leisure facility remains to this day.

This Council therefore calls on the chief executive to report on the feasibility of including a new public leisure facility in the city centre as part of the future Vaux and Crowtree site redevelopment plans or other city centre regeneration areas/projects.

Councillor N. Hodson  
Councillor M. Haswell  
Councillor G. Smith  
Councillor H. Fagan