

# Council Wednesday 20 September 2017 At 6.00pm

Council Chamber, Council House Corporation Street, Derby, DE1 2FS

Members:

The Mayor, Councillor John Whitby, and Councillors Afzal, Anderson, Ashburner, Banwait, Barker, Bayliss, Bolton, Care, Carr, Dhindsa, Eldret, Evans, Froggatt, Graves, Grimadell, Harwood, Hassall, Hezelgrave, A Holmes, M Holmes, Hudson, Hussain, Ingall, Jackson, Keith, J Khan, S Khan, Marshall, Naitta, Nawaz, Pegg, Potter, Poulter, Raju, Rawson, Repton, Roulstone, Russell, Sandhu, Shanker, Skelton, Smale, Stanton, Turner, Webb, West, Williams, Willoughby, Winter and Wood.

# **Agenda**

1. Apologies

2. Declarations of Interest Attached

3. Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 20 July 2017

**Attached** 

- 4. Announcements from the Mayor
- 5. Statements from Members of the Council Cabinet
- Questions from the Public to Members of the Council Cabinet

	Questioner	Respondent	Subject
Α	Simon Bacon	Cllr Afzal	Normanton recycling site
В	Carole Fenton	Cllr Afzal	Disabled parking bays
С	Lynn Lambert	Cllr Repton	Sustainability and Transformation
			Partnership consultation
D	Simon Bacon	Cllr Afzal	Normanton blue bin collections
Ε	Carole Fenton	Cllr Hussain	Reporting of substance abuse
F	Lynn Lambert	Cllr Repton	Sustainability and Transformation
Ľ			Partnership funding shortfall

- 7. Questions relating to Derbyshire Fire Authority or Derby Homes
- 8. Questions from non-Council Cabinet Members
- 9. Annual Report of the Standards Committee

**Attached** 

10. Annual Report of Overview and Scrutiny

**Attached** 

#### 11. Notice of Motion: Electrification of the Midland Mainline

## Moved by Councillor Banwait, seconded by Councillor Rawson

Council notes with concern the Government's decision to scrap full electrification of the Midland Mainline and recognises the move as a snub to commuters and businesses across the East Midlands that will hamper economic growth.

Council notes that upgrading the Midland Mainline would have delivered faster journey times and cleaner trains for the roughly 5 million people who live in and around Derby, Nottingham, Leicester and Sheffield.

Instead, the Government has chosen to prioritise investment in London and the South-East at the expense of electrification schemes in the Midlands, Wales and the North of England.

Council further notes the Secretary of State for Transport's recent backing for Crossrail 2, at an anticipated cost of £30 billion, in addition to £15 billion already spent on the first phase of the project. By contrast, electrification of the Midland Mainline was expected to cost £1 billion.

Council is concerned at the findings of a study by IPPR North that found that 54.2 per cent of UK transport spending is invested in London, while the East Midlands receives just 3.2 per cent. This equates to £1,943 spent per person in the capital on current or planned projects, compared to £221 in our region.

In line with cross-party agreement achieved by East Midlands Councils, D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership and the East Midlands Chamber, Council calls on the Government to reverse this disparity in regional infrastructure funding and to reinstate full electrification of the Midland Mainline. Council resolves to lobby the Secretary of State expressing opposition to his decision, and through the authority's representation on East Midlands Councils and the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership, to use all means to oppose the Secretary of State's decision.

#### 12. <u>Notice of Motion: Representation of females in elected roles</u>

## Moved by Councillor Eldret, seconded by Councillor Russell

Council notes the findings of the Local Government Commission's report 'Does Local Government Work for Women?'

The study found that women are more likely to rely on the services provided by councils and comprise 78 per cent of the local government workforce. However, the report also found that women are dramatically unrepresented in senior roles and as elected representatives.

Council is concerned to note, that:

- Since 1997, the proportion of female councillors has flat-lined, rising from 28 to 33 per cent, compared to an increase of 75 per cent amongst female MPs.
- Fewer than one in five Council Leaders are women, only 30 per cent of Cabinet roles go to women, while none of the six recently elected Metro Mayors are female.
- Around a third of female councillors have experienced sexist comments from male colleagues, either in the Council Chamber or within party structures.

Women represent 68 per cent of employees at Derby City Council, yet there are only 12 female councillors. Women have also been historically underrepresented in senior roles within the Council, including as Service Directors and Cabinet Members.

Council further notes that many authorities lack policies and procedures that encourage female participation, particularly in the democratic process. For example, many do not have formal maternity, paternity, adoption or parental leave policies for councillors.

In recognition of the centenary of women's suffrage in 2018, Council resolves to establish a cross-party working group to make recommendations to the Annual General Meeting, with the intention of increasing the representation of women within Derby City Council.

13. Notice of Motion: Electrification of the Midland Mainline

## Moved by Councillor Care, seconded by Councillor Ashburner

Derby City Council has consistently supported the electrification of Midland Main Line to help reduce reliance on fossil fuels and cut air pollution, as well as assisting line capacity and reducing journey times.

Council is therefore distressed that the Government has again taken Midland Main Line from the list of railway routes to be electrified.

Council agrees to write to the Secretary of State to ask him to commit the Government firmly to the electrification of this route. Council further agrees to work with other affected local Councils to build the strongest possible case to maintain a commitment to the Midland Main Line electrification project until the work is complete.

Janie Berry
Director of Governance

Janie Berry