Council

Time and Date

2.00 pm on Tuesday, 15th January, 2019

Place

Council Chamber - Council House

- 1. Apologies
- 2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 December 2018 (Pages 7 16)
- 3. Exclusion of the Press and Public

To consider whether to exclude the press and public for the items of private business for the reasons shown in the report.

4. Coventry Good Citizen Award

To be presented by the Lord Mayor and Judge Lockhart, Honorary Recorder

- 5. Correspondence and Announcements of the Lord Mayor
- 6. Petitions
- 7 Declarations of Interest

Matters Left for Determination by the City Council/Recommendations for the City Council

It is anticipated that the following matters will be referred as Recommendations from the meeting of Cabinet on 8 January 2019. The reports are attached. The relevant Recommendations will be circulated separately.

- 8. **The 2019/20 Council Tax Base Report** (Pages 17 30)
- 9. **LGA Corporate Peer Challenge Outcome of Peer Challenge** (Pages 31 66)
- 10. Land and buildings between Corporation St, Upper Well St, Lamb Street, Chapel Street and Bishop Street, Coventry, CV1 4AD Lease re-gear (Pages 67 76)

Items for Consideration

11. **Appointments** (Pages 77 - 82)

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

Other Business

12. Question Time

- 12.1 Written Question Booklet 1 (Pages 83 92)
- 12.2 Oral Questions to Chairs of Scrutiny Boards/Chair of Scrutiny Coordination Committee
- 12.3 Oral Questions to Chairs of other meetings
- 12.4 Oral Questions to Representatives on Outside Bodies
- 12.5 Oral Questions to Cabinet Members and Deputy Cabinet Members on any matter

13. Statements

14. **Debates**

14.1 Debate - Interim Statement on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights

This Council notes the recent interim statement, published on 16 November 2018, by the UN Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, Professor Philip Alston.

Professor Alston lays bare the misery of the impact of austerity on our communities and the political motivation. He writes "Austerity could easily have spared the poor, if the political will had existed to do so. Resources were available to the Treasury at the last budget that could have transformed the situation of millions of people living in poverty, but the political choice was made to fund tax cuts for the wealthy instead."

"Government ministers were almost entirely dismissive, blaming political opponents for wanting to sabotage their work, or suggesting that the media didn't really understand the system and that Universal Credit was unfairly blamed for problems rooted in the old legacy system of benefits."

The level of Government funding per household figure for Coventry has fallen by more than £850 between 2010/11 and 2018/19 which is a loss of funding per person of £390 thereby reducing our ability to protect our services and our citizens from the savagery of austerity.

Therefore this council calls upon the UK Government to adhere to UN Special Rapporteur's conclusions within his interim statement:

- The legislative recognition of social rights should be a central part of Brexit negotiations with social inclusion as a guiding principle of social policy
- 2. The UK should introduce a single measure of poverty and measure food security.
- 3. The government should initiate an expert assessment of the cumulative impact of tax and spending decisions since 2010 and prioritize the reversal of particularly regressive measures, including the benefit freeze, the two-child limit, the benefit cap, and the reduction of the housing benefit for under-occupied social rented housing.
- 4. The Government should ensure local governments have the funds needed to tackle poverty at the community level, and take varying needs and tax bases into account in the ongoing Fair Funding Review.
- 5. The Department of Work and Pensions should conduct an independent review of the effectiveness of reforms to welfare conditionality and sanctions introduced since 2012, and should immediately instruct its staff to explore more constructive and less punitive approaches to encouraging compliance.
- 6. The five week delay in receiving benefits under Universal Credit should be eliminated, separate payments should be made to different household members, and weekly or fortnightly payments should be facilitated.
- 7. Transport, especially in rural areas, should be considered an essential service, equivalent to water and electricity, and the government should regulate the sector to the extent necessary to

14.2 Debate - Review of Maintenance Contracts Levied Against Homeowners on New Developments

"This Council calls for a review of maintenance contracts levied against homeowners on new developments."

Private Business

Matters Left for Determination by the City Council/Recommendations for the City Council

It is anticipated that the following matter will be referred as a Recommendation from the meeting of Cabinet on 8 January 2019. The report is attached. The relevant Recommendations will be circulated separately.

15. Land and buildings between Corporation St, Upper Well St, Lamb Street, Chapel Street and Bishop Street, Coventry, CV1 4AD - Lease re-gear (Pages 93 - 108)

(Listing officer: A Hunt Tel: 024 7683 1812)

Martin Yardley, Deputy Chief Executive, Place, Council House Coventry

Monday, 7 January 2019

Note: The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is Carolyn Sinclair/Suzanne Bennett 024 7683 3166/3072

Membership: Councillors F Abbott, N Akhtar, P Akhtar, R Ali, A Andrews, R Auluck, R Bailey, S Bains, L Bigham (Deputy Chair), J Birdi, J Blundell (Chair), R Brown, K Caan, J Clifford, G Crookes, G Duggins, D Gannon, L Harvard, P Hetherton, J Innes, B Kaur, L Kelly, D Kershaw, T Khan, AS Khan, R Lakha, R Lancaster, M Lapsa, J Lepoidevin, A Lucas, P Male, K Maton, T Mayer, J McNicholas, C Miks, J Mutton, M Mutton, J O'Boyle, G Ridley, E Ruane, K Sandhu, T Sawdon, P Seaman, B Singh, R Singh, D Skinner, T Skipper, H Sweet, K Taylor, R Thay, C Thomas, S Walsh, D Welsh and G Williams

Please note: a hearing loop is available in the committee rooms

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Carolyn Sinclair/Suzanne Bennett 024 7683 3166/3072

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