

Time and Date

2.00 pm on Tuesday, 18th July, 2023

Place

Council Chamber - Council House

1. **Apologies**

2. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 June 2023** (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. **Correspondence and Announcements of the Lord Mayor**

5. **Petitions**

6. **Declarations of Interest**

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

7. **Annual Report of Ethics Committee 2022-23** (Pages 17 - 32)

From the Ethics Committee, 29 June 2023

It is anticipated that the following matters will be referred as Recommendations from Cabinet, 11 July 2023. The reports are attached. The relevant Recommendations will be circulated separately

8. **Revenue and Capital Outturn 2022/23** (Pages 33 - 66)

9. **Residential Children's Homes Strategy 2023-2026** (Pages 67 - 124)

Item for Consideration

10. **Local Government Boundary Review - Response to Consultation on Warding Patterns** (Pages 125 - 170)

Report of the Chief Legal Officer

11. **Question Time** (Pages 171 - 172)

11.1 Written Question – Booklet 1

11.2 Oral Questions to Chairs of Scrutiny Boards/Chair of Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

11.3 Oral Questions to Chairs of other meetings

11.4 Oral Questions to Representatives on Outside Bodies

11.5 Oral Questions to Cabinet Members and Deputy Cabinet Members on any matter

12. **Statements (if any)**

13. **Debates**

- (a) To be moved by Councillor R Simpson and seconded by Councillor S Keough

“This Council backs British farmers and will encourage its partners in the city to source locally grown produce.”

- (b) To be moved by Councillor J O'Boyle and seconded by Councillor A Tucker

“This Council condemns the Government’s lack of vision, ambition and urgency to secure the future of the planet and the future of UK PLC with a rapid move to net zero. This government is adding cost and creating delay by slowing progress on projects like Coventry Very Light Rail and is failing to legislate for and regulate new transport options including e-bikes and e-scooters.

As well as the country playing its part in securing the planet’s future, the transition to green will support economic success, create jobs and help create fairer opportunities for all, so we call on the government to address the situation without delay”.

- (c) To be moved by Councillor S Gray and seconded by Councillor E Reeves

Coventry City Council notes:

- Residents are deeply concerned about water quality and the impact of regular wastewater discharge, which includes untreated sewage, into our local rivers and the impact on wildlife and human health.
- The UK has the dirtiest rivers in Europe. Here in Coventry the River Sowe has been found to have huge increases in antibiotic-resistant bacteria immediately downstream of the Finham treatment works. Releasing sewage into rivers is no longer an emergency-only situation occurring as a result of severe storms, but an everyday occurrence even in 'normal' rainfall, and that we are in a situation of cumulative overload on the sewage and wastewater system.
- Whilst there are long term commitments, there are no plans in place which will address the immediate unacceptable situation either locally by Severn Trent or by national government Both the local Coventry and national planning policy requires a robust approach to both water quality and pollution and we need to consider the cumulative impact. Yet planning consultation documents show that it has not been the practice of council planners to ask Water Companies to report on cumulative impact (i.e. whether or not development may lead to any potential increase in 'emergency' discharge into rivers.)
- There have been a number of recent incidents where heavy rain has caused flooding and burst sewage drains in Coventry.

Coventry City Council resolves to:

- 1) Recognise our obligation to protect Coventry's rivers, including from the cumulative impacts of pollution, and ensure that this is properly reflected in the forthcoming revision of the local plan.
- 2) Recognise that there is clear evidence of deterioration of water quality due to cumulative impact of multiple sewage discharge events or 'sewage overload'.
- 3) Ensure that an evidence base is compiled that assesses the cumulative impact of sewage discharge and the capacity of drainage and sewage infrastructure so that this is factored into the upcoming revision of the local plan, including the overall level of future development.
- 4) Seek to better understand the cumulative impact of wastewater discharge including untreated sewage on our local rivers, wildlife and the health of our residents
- 5) Continue to take a lead on addressing this issue, working constructively with other agencies.
- 6) Ask the chair of the relevant scrutiny committee to invite the Chief Executive of Severn Trent plus senior representatives from the Environment Agency and Natural England/Natural Resources Wales to attend a meeting to answer questions on the current levels of sewage discharge and the provision of drainage and sewage capacity.
- 7) Ask Severn Trent, from this date onwards, in its planning consultation responses for major development, to clarify whether it has the information available to assess the impact on the number or duration of sewage discharges into local rivers and the capacity of the sewage and drainage infrastructure, and if it does have this information to share it (noting that this can only be requested not required).
- 8) Request that planning officers, from now onwards, include in all reports relating to major development a specific section on the impact on watercourses, drainage, and sewage infrastructure, including the potential for the development to affect sewage outflow into watercourses (i.e. cumulative impact), or to flag if this information is not fully available, so that this information (or the lack of it) is clearly and transparently set out.

Private Business

It is anticipated that the following matters will be referred as Recommendations from Cabinet, 11 July 2023. The reports are attached. The relevant Recommendation will be circulated separately

14. Residential Children's Homes Strategy 2023-2026 (Pages 173 - 236)

(Listing Officer: A Whitrick, email: angela.whitrick@coventry.gov.uk)

Julie Newman, Chief Legal Officer, Council House, Coventry

Monday, 10 July 2023

Note: The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is Carolyn Sinclair/Suzanne Bennett: carolyn.sinclair@coventry.gov.uk / suzanne.bennett@coventry.gov.uk

Membership: Councillors F Abbott, S Agboola, N Akhtar, P Akhtar, M Ali, R Bailey, L Bigham, J Birdi (Chair), J Blundell, R Brown, K Caan, G Duggins, J Gardiner, B Gittins, S Gray, L Harvard, G Hayre, M Heaven, P Hetherton, A Hopkins, J Innes, T Jandu, A Jobbar, A Kaur, S Keough, T Khan, AS Khan, R Lakha, R Lancaster, M Lapsa, J Lepoidevin, G Lloyd, P Male, A Masih, K Maton, J McNicholas, C Miks, B Mosterman, M Mutton (Deputy Chair), S Nazir, J O'Boyle, E M Reeves, G Ridley, E Ruane, K Sandhu, T Sawdon, P Seaman, R Simpson, B Singh, R Singh, R Thay, CE Thomas, A Tucker and D Welsh

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<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/publicAttendanceMeetings>

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