



To: All Members of the Council

Town House,  
ABERDEEN, 7 December 2023

## **COUNCIL**

The Members of the **COUNCIL** are requested to meet in Council Chamber - Town House on **WEDNESDAY, 13 DECEMBER 2023 at 10.30am**. This is a hybrid meeting, therefore Members may also attend remotely.

**In the event that the Council does not get the business concluded on 13 December, the meeting will re-convene on 14 December at 10.30am.**

JENNI LAWSON  
INTERIM CHIEF OFFICER - GOVERNANCE  
(LEGAL)

## **BUSINESS**

### **ADMISSION OF BURGESSES**

- 1.1 Admission of Burgesses

### **NOTIFICATION OF URGENT BUSINESS**

- 2.1 No urgent business at this stage

### **DETERMINATION OF EXEMPT BUSINESS**

- 3.1 Members are requested to determine that the exempt business be considered with the press and public excluded

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND TRANSPARENCY STATEMENTS**

- 4.1 Members are requested to declare any interests or connections

## **DEPUTATIONS**

- 5.1 No requests at this time

## **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS OF COUNCIL**

- 6.1 Minute of Meeting of Aberdeen City Council of 11 October 2023 - for approval (Pages 7 - 18)
- 6.2 Minute of Adjourned Meeting of Aberdeen City Council of 3 November 2023 - for approval (Pages 19 - 32)
- 6.3 Minute of Meeting of Urgent Business Committee of 30 October 2023 - for approval (Pages 33 - 36)

## **REFERRALS FROM COMMITTEES**

- 7.1 Outline Business Case: New Secondary School Provision for Hazlehead and Countesswells - RES/23/366 - Finance and Resources Committee of 22 November 2023 (Pages 37 - 48)
- 7.2 St Peter's RC School - Long Term Education Provision - RES/23/365 - Finance and Resources Committee of 22 November 2023 (Pages 49 - 58)

## **BUSINESS PLANNER AND OTHER MINUTES**

- 8.1 Council Business Planner (Pages 59 - 66)

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

- 9.1 Libraries and Bucksburn Swimming Pool Consultation Results - CUS/23/386 (Pages 67 - 320)
- 9.2 Budget Protocol: Phase 2 Consultation and Budget Update - RES/23/388 (Pages 321 - 376)
- 9.3 Housing Revenue Account Budget 2024/25 - RES/23/385 (Pages 377 - 410)

- 9.4 Aberdeen Planning Guidance - Energy Transition Zone Draft Masterplan Consultation Responses - COM/23/382 (Pages 411 - 690)
- 9.5 Committee Places and Appointment of External Member to the Education and Children's Services Committee - COM/23/379 (Pages 691 - 696)
- 9.6 Council Annual Effectiveness Report and Committee Annual Effectiveness Reports - COM/23/380 (Pages 697 - 848)
- 9.7 Governance Review of Trusts - 2023 Update - COM/23/383 (Pages 849 - 874)
- 9.8 Treasury Management Strategy - Mid-Year Review - RES/23/381 (Pages 875 - 878)
- 9.9 Petition - United Nations Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons / Nuclear Free Local Authorities (Pages 879 - 880)

“We the undersigned call upon Aberdeen City Council to support efforts to rid the world of nuclear weapons by endorsing the United Nations treaty To Prohibit Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). We request that the Council join ‘Nuclear Free Local Authorities’ whose aim is to tackle in practical ways and within their powers the problems caused by civil and military nuclear hazards.”

### **NOTICES OF MOTION**

10.1 Notice of Motion by Councillor Kuszniir

That the Council:

1. Instructs the Chief Officer - Corporate Landlord, following consultation with the Chief Officer - People and Organisational Development, to develop a separate or single-sex space policy for Aberdeen City Council that ensures the protection of separate or single sex spaces in Council owned and operated buildings;
2. Further instructs the Chief Officer - Corporate Landlord to submit said policy to a 2024 Council meeting for consideration and approval; and
3. Believes that consideration should be given to applying the policy to the following:
  - 3.1 toilets;
  - 3.2 domestic violence refuges; and
  - 3.3 changing rooms.

## 10.2 Notice of Motion by Councillor Thomson

Council notes that:

1. The pressure on organisations to pay the right amount of tax in the right place at the right time has never been stronger.
2. Polling from the Institute for Business Ethics finds that “corporate tax avoidance” has, since 2013, been the clear number one concern of the British public when it comes to business conduct.
3. More than two-thirds (68%) of the Scottish public agree that the Government and local councils should consider a company’s ethics and how they pay their tax as well as value for money and quality of service provided, when undertaking procurement.
4. Around 15% of public contracts in Scotland have been won by companies with links to tax havens.
5. It has been conservatively estimated that losses from multinational profit-shifting (just one form of tax avoidance) could be costing the UK some £17bn per annum in lost corporation tax revenues.
6. The Fair Tax Mark offers a means for business to demonstrate good tax conduct, and has been secured by wide range of businesses across the UK, including FTSE-listed PLCs, co-operatives, social enterprises and large private businesses.

Council believes that:

1. Paying tax is often presented as a burden, but it shouldn’t be.
2. Tax enables us to provide services from education, health and social care, to flood defence, roads, policing and defence. It also helps to counter financial inequalities and rebalance distorted economies.
3. As recipients of significant public funding, local authorities should take the lead in the promotion of exemplary tax conduct; be that by ensuring contractors are paying their proper share of tax, or by refusing to go along with offshore tax dodging when buying land and property.
4. Where substantive stakes are held in private enterprises, then influence should be wielded to ensure that such businesses are exemplars of tax transparency and tax avoidance is shunned - e.g., no use of marketed schemes requiring disclosure under DOTAS regulations (Disclosure Of Tax Avoidance Schemes) or arrangements that might fall foul of the General Anti-Abuse Rule.
5. More action is needed, however, as current law significantly restricts councils’ ability to either penalise poor tax conduct or reward good tax conduct, when buying goods or services.
6. UK cities, counties and towns can and should stand up for responsible tax conduct - doing what they can within existing frameworks and pledging to do more given the opportunity, as active supporters of international tax justice.

Council resolves to:

1. Approve the Councils for Fair Tax Declaration.
2. Lead by example and demonstrate good practice in our tax conduct, right across our activities.
3. Ensure contractors implement IR35 robustly and pay a fair share of employment taxes.
4. Not use offshore vehicles for the purchase of land and property, especially where this leads to reduced payments of stamp duty.
5. Undertake due diligence to ensure that not-for-profit structures are not being used inappropriately as an artificial device to reduce the payment of tax and business rates.
6. Demand clarity on the ultimate beneficial ownership of suppliers and their consolidated profit & loss position.
7. Promote Fair Tax Mark certification to any business in which we have a significant stake and where corporation tax is due.
8. Support Fair Tax Week events in the area, and celebrate the tax contribution made by responsible businesses who say what they pay with pride.
9. Support calls for urgent reform of EU, UK and Scots law to enable local authorities to better penalise poor tax conduct and reward good tax conduct through their procurement policies.

### 10.3 Notice of Motion by Councillor Watson

This Council is proud of its first mission of serving local people, but also of its international solidarity in holding out a helping hand to those in need elsewhere, and hosting many refugees.

The conflict in Palestine / Israel has caused huge suffering over the last 75 years. However, the horrific acts of terror by Hamas on 7<sup>th</sup> October, and the recent escalation of violence in Gaza has overshadowed the recent past in the deaths of civilians, destruction of schools, hospitals and essential infrastructure, and the blockade of water, food, and fuel. Locally, some citizens of Aberdeen have seen dozens of family members killed in Gaza, and there is a rising danger of Islamophobia and antisemitism.

Aberdeen City Council recognises the need for justice to underly a sustainable peace, and the internationally accepted need for a 2-state solution to be implemented. All human lives should be valued equally, and human rights respected for all.

We call for an immediate ceasefire of all hostilities in Palestine / Israel, the immediate release of hostages, and for international support for huge and urgent UN-led humanitarian relief for citizens of Gaza.

### **EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**

- 11.1 Outline Business Case: New Secondary School Provision for Hazlehead and Countesswells - RES/23/366 - exempt appendices (Pages 881 - 964)
- 11.2 St Peter's RC School - Long Term Education Provision - RES/23/365 - exempt appendices (Pages 965 - 1026)

Website Address: [www.aberdeencity.gov.uk](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk)

IIAs related to reports on this agenda can be viewed [here](#)

Should you require any further information about this agenda, please contact Martyn Orchard, tel 01224 067598 or [morchard@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:morchard@aberdeencity.gov.uk)