



City of Westminster

Council Agenda

Title: **Council Meeting**

Meeting Date: **Wednesday 9th November, 2016**

Time: **7.00 pm**

Venue: **Porchester Hall, Porchester Road, Bayswater, London W2 5DU**

Members: **All Councillors are hereby summoned to attend the Meeting for the transaction of the business set out.**



Admission to the public gallery is available from 6.30pm.

Please telephone if you are attending the meeting in a wheelchair or have difficulty walking up steps. There is wheelchair access by a side entrance.



An Induction loop operates to enhance sound for anyone wearing a hearing aid or using a transmitter. If you require any further information, please contact the Committee Officer, Mick Steward, Head of Committee and Governance Services.

**Email: msteward@westminster.gov.uk Tel: 020 7641 3134
Corporate Website: www.westminster.gov.uk**

1. APPOINTMENT OF RELIEF CHAIRMAN

To appoint a relief Chairman.

2. MINUTES

To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 13 July 2016.

3. LORD MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

- (a) The Lord Mayor to Report that on Thursday 14 July he visited HMS Westminster in dry dock in Portsmouth where she is coming to the end of a significant refit.
- (b) The Lord Mayor to report that on Monday 25 July he attended and made a speech at the unveiling of the new Chinese Gate as a guest of the London Chinatown Chinese association in the presence of HRH Prince Andrew followed by a reception.
- (c) The Lord Mayor to report that on Thursday 15 September he attended and made a speech at the unveiling of a commemorative paving stone in honour of the Victoria Cross won, exactly 100 years previously, at the Somme by Lieutenant Colonel John Vaughan Campbell VC, Coldstream Guards.
- (d) The Lord Mayor to report that on Friday 16 September he hosted, in the Reception Rooms, a visitation of the Mayor of Salzburg and 20 members of the Salzburg Association of Towns and Municipalities. The Austrian Ambassador was also present.
- (e) The Lord Mayor to report that on Sunday 25 September he attended the Pearly Kings and Queens, Costermongers Harvest Festival Parade at Guildhall Yard EC2 followed by a service at St Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside.
- (f) The Lord Mayor to report that on Tuesday 27 September he attended a Service of Thanksgiving at Westminster Abbey for the life and work of Sir Terry Wogan followed by a reception in the Jerusalem Chamber.
- (g) The Lord Mayor to report that on Monday 3 October he attended the annual WellChild awards, at the Dorchester Hotel in the presence of HRH Prince Harry, followed by a reception and dinner.

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- (h) The Lord Mayor to report that on Thursday 13 October he attended a service at Westminster Abbey to celebrate the installation of His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch KBE as High Steward coupled with a sung Eucharist for the Feast of Edward the Confessor. This was followed by a reception and dinner in the Jerusalem Chamber.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any Declarations of Interest from Members and Officers of the Council.

5. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (IF ANY)

6. QUESTIONS

See Order of Questions attached.

Standing Order 9 limits the questions to matters relevant to the general work or procedure of the Council.

7. COUNCILLOR ISSUES

- (a) Councillor Jacqui Wilkinson – Animal Welfare in Westminster
- (b) Councillor Ruth Bush – Young Carers

8. STATEMENT ON URGENT MATTERS

With the approval of the Chairman of the meeting, the Leader of the Council may make a statement on an urgent matter and the Leader of the Opposition will have an equivalent right of reply.

9. FUTURE POLICY PLAN

To consider items chosen for debate from the attached Future Policy Plan.

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(Pages 9 - 14)

10. CABINET MEMBER/COMMITTEE REPORT

To receive, consider and debate, if chosen, the following reports which contain a recommendation to the Council for decision.

Cabinet/Cabinet Member/Committee	Date
Pension Fund Committee (Annual Report)	20 September 2016
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Built Environment – Adoption of the Special Policy Areas and Policies Map – Revision to the Westminster City Plan	24 October 2016
General Purposes Committee (To Follow)	2 November 2016

11. NOTICE OF MOTION

(a) Housing Regeneration

To be moved by Councillor Daniel Astaire and seconded by Councillor Susie Burbridge:

This Council notes the estate regeneration undertaken. In the context of the national housing shortage, this Council recognises the opportunity created by this regeneration work and the potential for future regeneration projects within our estates and property holdings.

The Council will continue to look for ways to maximise what can be delivered in these areas, look at further regeneration opportunities as well as encouraging the private sector to deliver more intermediate housing proposals to help the local workforce.

This Council is committed to taking a proactive approach to regeneration and is open to further, credible private sector funding for regeneration. The projects which the Council has delivered and is delivering at the moment demonstrate the authority's commitment to quality housing regeneration schemes to deliver market housing and affordable housing, including intermediate housing, in areas of real need across the City.

The Council endorses the commitment to continued estate regeneration across our city and in particular the Dolphin Living Incubator Scheme.

(b) Library Service

To be moved by Councillor Adam Hug and seconded by Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg

The Council notes the administration's plans to remove £750,000 per year in funding from the Westminster Council Libraries service. It notes that the cuts will reduce staffing levels across Westminster's libraries by the equivalent of 17 ½ full time posts. It notes that the roles removed will predominantly be qualified librarians. The council also notes the huge delays to the replacement of Marylebone Library and the inadequacies of its forthcoming temporary home on New Cavendish Street.

The council believes that our librarians form an essential part of the library service, their expertise, dedication and passion for reading and learning help make Westminster's libraries a hugely valued part of our community. The council also believes the administration must think again about how to support our vital library services including revenue raising, cost sharing and use of the general fund.

Before any decisions about library staffing or services are taken the council resolves:

- to undertake a public consultation about the future of Westminster's libraries, including the proposed changes to staffing levels and roles.
- to fully involve the council's scrutiny processes.
- to publish and assess alternative options for revenue raising and cost sharing from library facilities and services in order to offset the need to reduce staffing levels.

The council resolves not to delete currently filled posts within the libraries service or force staff to take more junior positions. It resolves to maintain the presence of qualified (level three) librarians in all library services currently supported by such staff in order to maintain and enhance the quality of the service.

The council also resolves that there will be no subsequent plans for reductions in the libraries budget or the provision of library services for the remainder of the council term (May 2018).