

Council17th July, 2025PRESENT:-

Councillor Payne, Lord Mayor, in the Chair.
 Councillor Coward, Deputy Lord Mayor (D. C.);
 Councillors Beeson, Belcher, Bridges, Burton, Byrne, Cahill, Chambers, A. Collinson, M. Collinson, Conner, Dad, Dolman, Drake-Davis, Fudge, Gardiner, Grozav, Haines, Hale, Harper, Harrison, Hatcher, Healand, Henry, Herrera-Richmond, Hofman, Ieronimo, Jepmond, Kassim, Keal, Kemp, Kennett, Matthews, McCobb, McMurray, K. Neal, T. Neal, Nicola, North, Petrini, Pritchard, Quinn, Randall, Ross, Singh, Smith, A. Thompson, D. Thompson, Tock, Wareing, Wilkinson and Wood.

APOLOGIES:-

Councillors Dearing, Pantelakis, Preston and Robinson.

Minute No.	Description/Decision	Action By/Deadline
PROCEDURAL ITEMS		
37	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>Councillor M. Collinson declared a personal interest in minute 46, insofar as that one of his children was stated.</p> <p>Councillor Herrera-Richmond declared a personal interest in minute 47, insofar as he resided in one of the areas referred to in the motion.</p> <p>Councillor Wareing declared a personal interest in minute 43, insofar as he had previously been employed as a train driver.</p> <p>Councillor Hale declared a personal interest minute 44, insofar as his partner worked for the Department of Work and Pensions.</p> <p>Councillor Hale declared a personal interest in minute 48, insofar as he was a member of the Labour and Cooperative Party.</p> <p>Councillor Wood declared a personal interest in minute 49, insofar as she worked on a community project on Council owned land.</p>	Director of Legal Services and Partnerships

	Councillor Bridges declared a personal interest in minute 50, insofar as she was a member of the Horizon Academy Trust.	
38	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>Agreed – That the minutes of the Meeting of the City Council, held on 19th June, 2025, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and correctly recorded and be signed by the Lord Mayor.</p>	Director of Legal Services and Partnerships
39	<p>COMPOSITION OF POLITICAL GROUPS</p> <p>The Assistant Director of Legal Services and Governance reported that there had been no changes to the composition of the political groups within the City Council.</p> <p>Agreed – That the report be noted.</p>	
40	<p>MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES, JOINT COMMITTEES AND EXTERNAL BODIES</p> <p>Moved by Councillor Dolman and seconded by Councillor Herrera-Richmond:</p> <p>Councillor A. Collinson replaced Councillor Dolman on the Licensing Committee.</p> <p>Councillor Dolman resigned from the Children, Young People, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Commission, leaving a vacancy.</p> <p>Councillor Grozav is no longer a member of the Civic Committee.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p> <p>The Leader of the Council also informed the Chamber that he had appointed Councillor Dolman to the Cabinet, as Portfolio Holder for Communities. He would circulate a revised copy of his Scheme of Delegation in due course.</p>	Director of Legal Services and Partnerships
41	<p>REFERRAL FROM THE CIVIC COMMITTEE</p> <p>The Lord Mayor explained that the Civic Committee had recently considered two nominations to award</p>	

	<p>the Honorary Freedom of the City of Kingston upon Hull. The Civic Committee had recommended to Council that those nominations be accepted.</p> <p>Moved by Councillor Payne and seconded by Councillor Hale:</p> <p>That the referral from the Civic Committee, to bestow Honorary Freedom of the City of Kingston upon Hull on Tommy Coyle and Neil Hudgell, be agreed, with the ceremonies taking place at a date and time to be agreed with the recipients.</p> <p>Motion carried unanimously.</p>	
NON-EXEMPT ITEMS		
42	<p>PETITIONS</p> <p>The Assistant Director of Legal Services and Governance reported that she had not received any petitions that needed to be considered by the City Council.</p> <p>Agreed – That the report be noted.</p>	
43	<p>LEADER'S STATEMENT</p> <p>(Councillor Wareing declared a personal interest in minute 43, insofar as he had been previously employed as a train driver.)</p> <p>Councillor Ross, the Leader of the City Council, welcomed Mr. Ion Chicu, the former President of Moldova to the Chamber. He then began his statement and commented on Councillor Dolman's recent appointment to the Cabinet; the recently agreed Bridges and Statues, Monuments and Fountains Maintenance Programme; the recent University of Hull Graduation Ceremony; the 'Remembering Srebrenica' event; the need for the Government to take action regarding the Vivergo Fuels Plant at Saltend; the upcoming musical events in the City, such as the Sesh; Coldplay's concerts, and the Freedom Festival; the anniversary of the riots in Hull City Centre, and the appointment of Terry Coyle and Neil Hudgell as Honorary Freemen of the City.</p>	

	<p>Councillor Hale replied to the Leader's statement, and welcomed Mr. Ion Chicu, the former President of Moldova to the Chamber. He then commented on the 'Remembering Srebrenica' event; the appointment of Terry Coyle and Neil Hudgell as Honorary Freemen of the City; the principal of Officers being appointed to the Boards of the Council's wholly owned companies, and the East Carr Fields planning application received by the Council.</p> <p>Councillor Wareing replied to the Leader's statement, and commented on the current situation at Hull Trains; the success of the sporting teams in the City; Hull Pride on 26th July, 2025, and the three new Green Party Councillors on the East Riding of Yorkshire Council.</p> <p>Agreed – That the Leader's Statement, and the responses to that statement, be noted.</p>	
44	<p>QUESTIONS (WITH WRITTEN NOTICE) TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL, MEMBERS OF THE CABINET, CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES AND OTHERS</p> <p>(Councillor Hale declared a personal interest minute 44, insofar as his partner worked for the Department of Work and Pensions.)</p> <p>Councillor Wareing asked if the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Infrastructure would agree with him that the email sent by Councillor Drake-Davis to the Head of Place and Highways Infrastructure on Wednesday, 2nd April, 2025, regarding the road outside Endike Academy, suggested a solution before he understood the problem?</p> <p>The Portfolio Holder for Transport and Infrastructure replied that now he understood the context, he could answer the question. Councillor Drake-Davis was being proactive in taking concerns of a resident to Officers. Officers then carried out their assessment based on statutory and regulatory design guides and standards that must be followed. He was hopeful a solution could be found.</p> <p>Councillor Nicola asked the Portfolio Holder for</p>	

Culture, Leisure and Customer Services, that she noted from the Council's website that during the extremely warm weather that the City had been experiencing already this summer the water play areas in both East Park and Pickering Park were "currently closed due to essential maintenance". Could the Portfolio Holder tell the Chamber when both of those water play facilities would be reopened and made available to the City's children?

The Portfolio Holder for Culture, Leisure and Customer Services replied that the contractors for both had been appointed. They had indicated that it would not be possible for them to deliver those schemes for the summer holiday period. That was disappointing and he would be working with the Officers to make sure those play areas got the work they deserved and were opened for residents to enjoy as soon as possible.

Councillor Henry to asked if the Portfolio Holder for Environment could inform the Chamber on the reduction in Glyphosate use in parks and open spaces over the past year?

The Portfolio Holder for Environment replied that over the past couple of years Streetscene had reduced its use of Glyphosate by 20% in parks and open spaces, started under Councillor Conner and continued by himself. Over the past year he had asked Streetscene to cease spraying Glyphosate completely in certain areas of the City. Namely all pocket parks, and three of the City's greenest parks East, Pearson and Pickering Parks. Instead the teams removed weeds in a 100% natural way by manually hoeing them out of the ground. He was not accepting a city full of weeds, but was dealing with them in an environmental way. He was now looking at how he could expand the phasing out of Glyphosate in a way that was acceptable to residents and what resource was required to do that. There was a motion later in the meeting where he was sure there would be further discussion on this matter.

Councillor Wareing asked if the Chair of the North Area Committee could provide the Chamber with an update on the work of the Area Committee Task and Finish Panel?

The Chair of the North Area Committee replied that Council had agreed to look at the structure and functioning of Area Committees following a period of change. He thanked the Members involved for very positive meetings the Panel had now met twice and had agreed its schedule of meetings and Terms of Reference for moving forward. The work was progressing steadily, and all Members should have been circulated a questionnaire by their Group. That would help the Panel have an informed opinion of all Members' views when it engaged with partners on what changes could look like. The Council motion that had been agreed asked for a report back in September. The Panel had unanimously agreed that that date was not deliverable. The Panel were currently working towards the November Council meeting.

Councillor Petrini asked if the Leader of the Majority Opposition Group agreed with her that Hull City Council's response to managing traveller encampments across the City was poor? It did not meet the needs of the travelling community; the communities that used and relied on the City's green spaces for relaxation and leisure pursuits, or communities who resided in Area Committee jurisdictions who had regular traveller encampments.

The Leader of the Majority Opposition Group replied that the issue here was twofold. Over five years ago the Council proposed a temporary stop over site, that wasn't finished. It wouldn't have been a panacea for all the ills at the time. He was slightly more reassured that there seemed to be some progress. That site needed to be open because without it one of the important strings to the bow was missing. What that currently meant was that it fell on a Neighbourhood Coordinator in a given area to effectively lead on arranging and coordinating the removal of an illegal encampment. Their time was taken up completely on the removal. It's almost like the rest of the organisation said, 'over to you'. It was quite a complicated bureaucratic and legal process, and while they had legal help, but it wasn't always a legal priority. In Labour's view it should be compared to other business. Effectively, he could only speak for the area that traditionally had the encampments, the St. Andrew's and Docklands

Ward. Encampments effectively took out the sports pitches and dog walking areas, one of the important green spaces from that community while the Travellers were there. He was not criticising any Officer in this, as it shouldn't fall on individual Officers. The encampment could move from one site to another in the same area and the poor Neighbourhood Coordinator had to take it up. Something had to be done. This was a plea to the Administration to make sure the Travellers' stop over site was available for next summer. Sandwell Borough Council had a site up and running in two years. It didn't have to take ages, and shouldn't have taken six years as in this City. As it wasn't 'one size fits all', there needed to be additional support given to the Neighbourhood Coordinators.

Councillor Randall asked the Portfolio Holder for Economic Renewal, Housing and Organisational Development, how would the Bridges and Structures Plan give businesses the confidence they needed to grow and invest in Hull knowing the infrastructure they relied on would now be maintained?

The Portfolio Holder for Economic Renewal, Housing and Organisational Development replied that the Administration had recently announced a major investment plan for bridge maintenance. It was designed to provide local businesses with significant confidence, fostering growth and investment in the City. By reducing unplanned disruptions and improving reliability, business could better plan for logistics, improving their efficiencies and maintain their reputations. Enhanced connectivity and journey times through smoother traffic flow and improved journey times, were crucial for businesses involved in transportation, distribution, and firms that required efficient movement of goods and personnel across the City and wider region. The Plan would also help support the local economy and job creation. The maintenance works themselves would likely create jobs in the construction and engineering sectors, benefiting local contractors and suppliers. Furthermore, by ensuring the City's infrastructure remained robust, the Plan supported existing businesses and encouraged new ones to invest, leading to a ripple effect of job creation across various sectors. That shift from a reactive to a

proactive approach demonstrated stability and foresight. Businesses considering significant investments in Hull, such as expanding operations or setting up new facilities, needed assurance that the underlying infrastructure would support their long-term plans. That investment provided that assurance, making Hull a more stable and attractive environment for sustained growth. In essence, by ensuring the foundational elements of the City's transport network were robust and reliable, Hull City Council was creating an environment where businesses could operate with greater confidence; invest for the future, and contribute to the overall economic prosperity of the region.

Councillor Conner asked the Portfolio Holder for Culture, Leisure and Customer Services, £350,000 was provided for the upgrade to the Alderman Kneeshaw Park running track and was in the Capital Programme for 2024/25, but moved with no Ward Councillor knowledge to the 2025/26 budget. Due to the success of the newly established Barham FC now having 18 teams using the park, Ward Councillors asked that the budget be split, with £220,000 of the funding used for the Eastmount gym floor, as that had still not been delivered, and the remaining £130,000 to infill the track to give more space for the football club to use. However, the lump sum of £350,000 was completely removed from the 'Open Spaces Programme' by the Portfolio Holder without any consultation with the Independent local Councillors representing the Longhill and Bilton Grange Ward. Indeed we were not even given the courtesy of being informed. That money was then divided up to fund things in predominantly Liberal Democrat Wards, such as West Carr; Holderness, and Beverley and Newland. Did the Portfolio Holder think that his actions were fair; above board, and transparent, not just to the Ward Councillors but to the residents of Longhill and Bilton Grange Ward?

The Portfolio Holder for Culture, Leisure and Customer Services replied, in an email Councillor Conner sent on Tuesday, 22nd October, 2024, at 3:34:08 p.m. she said: "As discussed in recent months a decision has been made by Ward Councillors to not reinstate the old running track on

Alderman Kneeshaw Park. When this project was suggested just after Covid, due to many people using the park and exercise track, it was deemed a good idea. However, since then, over the last three years, Barham Football Club has established themselves within Alderman Kneeshaw with around 17 clubs, catering for all ages. With this in mind, Ward Councillors are requesting to remove the running track from the Capital Programme and instead top soil over and level out the area. Removing the old metal flood light poles, which didn't work, as this area will be more productive to use as football pitches." He was happy to make this email available to Councillor Conner again; the residents of Longhill and Bilton Grange Ward, and anyone else who would take an interest in the reasoning behind the decision. In the meantime, the capital funds set aside for the running track remained in the Parks' Investment Programme.

Councillor Wood asked the Leader of the Majority Opposition Group, having attended the recent Local Government Association (LGA) Conference, would he give a brief explanation of what the announcement on local government funding might mean to this Council?

The Leader of the Majority Opposition Group replied he and Councillors Dad, Hofman and Ross were at the LGA Conference. He felt the Council must welcome the idea of multiyear settlements. Moving away from an annual budget where you didn't know whether it would be good, bad or ugly, had got to be a good thing. Although multiyear settlements only worked if the money was enough. Otherwise you knew you were getting less money over a number of years. The good news was multiyear settlements, the better news came from a meeting he had with Minister McMahon and some Co-op leaders. It was the reintroduce of the deprivation indicators. If the Government tweaked the formula around deprivation, that would be absolutely key. Every indication was given at the LGA Conference, that that was going to happen. That would massively benefit Local Authorities like Hull. It was fair to say that the bleating that was coming from many London Authorities would suggest that was very much on the cards, as they did not want all the money going to the North. He recognised there was deprivation across the country, but also that the formula was

skewed under the previous Government from areas of deprivation like Hull. It was absolutely right and just that those factors were taken in to account and re-instigated. He looked forward to that settlement in the Autumn, a multiyear settlement where deprivation featured loud and clear.

Councillor Dolman asked if the Portfolio Holder for Culture, Leisure and Customer Services could inform the Chamber of the work being carried out by the Council and its partners to host 'Coldplay' at Craven Park next month?

The Portfolio Holder for Culture, Leisure and Customer Services replied that the Council was working collaboratively with partners across the City and beyond to maximise the benefit of the Coldplay gigs and provide an amazing experience for the whole City and its residents, whether they were attending or not. That included, but not limited to, working with local food and beverage venues, hotels, public transport operators, Hull KR and the gig promoter, and preparing branding material across the City promoting Hull as a City of Music. There was a huge branding and advertising campaign due to start right across the City. Online, the Council was working hard to increase the presence and level of information available online, both for residents and visitors, and pushing people towards the dedicated pages on the Visit Hull website. That would hold information about other events happening at that time and in the future; travel offers; food and drink offers, and much more to do with getting to know the City. The Council had approached Hull Trains, who had agreed to provide free train travel for people between Doncaster and Hull on selected trains between 18th and 20th August, 2025. People would have to show their Coldplay tickets on board. All the trains would call at Selby, Howden and Brough so the offer worked for them too. The Council had engaged with the Cycle Forum with a view to including sustainable transport messaging in its campaign. Hull KR were currently sourcing some space in the event area to create a cycle cloakroom to encourage more people to cycle to the gig. That would link closely with the ethos of the band and would give the opportunity to support the sustainable transport agenda. The Council had approached Re-volution Cycles to manage this in partnership with Hull City Council. Hull City Council

were currently working with a number of bus operators to ensure that there was an acceptable amount of public transport available to and from the events. Taxis would be able to drop off at the Marfleet Lane/Preston Road junction. Over the last 10 months the Council's appointed Sports Ground Safety Advisory Chair had been running monthly Safety Advisory Groups for the concert. That had enabled the Group, including the blue light and safety services, to look at all areas of the event including the Event Management Plan; traffic management; resident engagement; parking; medical provision; security and stewarding; noise; pyrotechnics, and sports ground safety etc. Council staff would be on site in the days leading up to the event to oversee safety and ensure that the highest possible standards were met. Officers had also been working closely across departments, with National Highways and the logistics firms to ensure smooth transport to the stadium with reduced impact on the City and its residents. There were meetings in the lead up to the event with specialist staff at Humberside Police, to ensure that the area surrounding the event was well policed and the community could see an active police presence for the duration of the event. He thanked the Events Team, other Officers of the Council and partners for putting in a phenomenal effort on this event and he was sure it would be an outstanding success.

Councillor Conner asked if the Deputy Leader of the City Council could provide a full explanation to the Chamber why, the Eastmount Community Centre's damaged gym floor had still not been replaced. It was first investigated by Norfolk Property Services in January, 2020, and in March, 2022, and it was agreed that works were required and would be undertaken as soon as possible, with emails stating completion expected July, 2022. That didn't happen, and the cost rose by the time of the Decision Record in December, 2022. The good news story was then shared by the then Portfolio Holder, Councillor Drake-Davis, and announcements made in the local and regional press in July and August, 2023, but nothing had happened. That denied the volunteers who run the Centre the opportunity to hire out that area and bring in much needed revenue, especially with utility costs rising. It also had a knock-on effect to the

community groups who used to hire the gym area. Child Dynamics had not been able to hold youth club sessions in there for nearly three years, instead using the Centre's corridors. The Administration had stated it was committed to Community Centres and young people. So, when will the Eastmount Community Centre gym floor be replaced, as it isn't included in the current planned improvements for the city-wide Community Centres.

The Deputy Leader of the City Council replied that in February, 2025, it was agreed that Eastmount Community Centre would receive the investment needed to further improve the energy efficiency of the building. It would also improve the entire building including the gym floor, walls and roof. Improvement work was currently in the process of being commissioned by BDS. She welcomed the commitment and was fully supportive.

Councillor Beeson asked if the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Infrastructure could provide the Chamber with an update on the “Avenues’ fountains” repairs?

The Portfolio Holder for Transport and Infrastructure replied that the Council's Bridges, Structures and Fountains Programme included necessary works to maintain the Avenues' fountains. Surveys and inspections had been completed to inform the repairs programme. Works on Westbourne Avenue fountain had been programmed first, to be followed by the Park Avenue fountain. That came as part of the Liberal Democrat budget earlier this year where it set aside a significant sum of money for things like statues, monuments and fountains to be maintained, right across the different communities of the City, like the Avenues.

Councillor Jepmond asked if the Deputy Leader of the City Council could explain why it was taking so long for the Eastmount Community Centre's lease to be finalised? Even when the Eastmount Management Committee had agreed to take on the lease with the agreement the gym floor would be repaired in the near future. That delay was stopping the Centre reaching its full potential and being able to access larger funding opportunities.

The Deputy Leader of the City Council replied that a meeting had been held earlier this week between the Council and its partners. She was hopeful this would have resolved the outstanding issues so the lease could be agreed. There had been a discrepancy between the parties in relation to the proposed demise of the lease and subsequently the responsibilities of the tenant. A number of departments had been involved in the matter including Property and Assets; Housing; Children and Young People, and Library Services. There was a meeting due yesterday afternoon to discuss the proposed lease. She hoped to have further updates on the issue shortly.

Councillor Fudge asked if the Leader of the Majority Opposition Group agreed with her that it was outrageous for industrial cabin buildings, without planning permission, to be touted for rent near the Hull New Theatre, and did he also agree that the public expected and demanded enforcement of such facilities, which were a risk to the public and anyone living there?

The Leader of the Majority Opposition Group replied that it was truly shocking in this day and age that, effectively, glorified cabins could be touted for rent on Airbnb. It was even more outrageous that it was only when the media intervened that they took them off the Airbnb website. Airbnb took no responsibility for the people that they let to. It was probably only the bad publicity that forced them down. There was a loophole in planning enforcement legislation. There was no planning permission for those buildings so the Enforcement Team could take action. How you stop enforcement you put in, very quickly, a planning application which immediately halts enforcement until the application is determined. Then it doesn't get validated. Who would validate you living in a glorified port-a-cabin. As soon as the process stops, then effectively enforcement could start again. You could then submit an amended planning application, free of charge, which effectively stops the enforcement process again. In the meantime you can carry on renting those cabins. It was absolutely outrageous. He hoped, that if there wasn't a national change to close the loophole, the City Council could look at that issue as part of the review of Hull's Local Plan.

Nobody should be forced to live in a building that hadn't got any permissions or safeguards. It was a disaster waiting to happen. The Local Authority needed to look at if there were any other powers, other than planning enforcement, that could stop that terrible abuse of process.

Councillor Dolman asked if the Portfolio Holder for Culture, Leisure and Customer Services would provide the Chamber with details of next weekend's 'Pride' event in the City and reaffirm the Council's commitment to the LGBT+ community?

The Portfolio Holder for Culture, Leisure and Customer Services replied that he was very happy and proud to reaffirm the Council's commitment to Pride and the LGBT+ community. The Council was a proud supporter of Hull's Pride event and the LGBT+ community. The Events Team had been working with the Pride organisers throughout the year to pull together a strong programme for Pride 2025. The day would include the parade starting on Humber street and finishing in King Edward Square. There would be a number of stage performers, stalls and attractions across Zebedee's yard and Queen Victoria Square. Hull Truck would once again be hosting the quiet reflection area. There are around 3000 people expected to take part in the parade with tens of thousands more expected to attend the event.

Councillor Jepmond asked if the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Infrastructure could provide an update as to when the Council would be taking up its powers of penalty enforcement relating to the box junction at Mount Pleasant; how any revenue raised was planned to be spent, and when similar schemes would be rolled out to other junctions, including information on which ones and to what timescale?

The Portfolio Holder for Transport and Infrastructure replied that the Council was granted the relevant powers in December, 2024, initially for the box junction on Ferensway, between Brook Street and the Hull Paragon Interchange. In March, 2025, a Cabinet decision was made to fund the first location for Moving Traffic Violation cameras via grant

funding. The initial phase of the scheme of enforcing yellow box junction rules between Brook Street and Hull Paragon Interchange, was to support bus accessibility and improve punctuality. Any additional locations would be subject to consultation and funding, although revenue raised from the Ferensway scheme would be ringfenced to support additional locations. He was more than happy to engage with Councillor Jepmond where she thought there were areas that could benefit from this scheme or would suggest they were raised at Area Committee.

Councillor Harper asked the Leader of the Majority Opposition Group, whilst welcoming the decision by Sports England to provide money to make improvements to Ennerdale Leisure Centre and finally after three years repair the small pool, did he agree with residents that the scheduling of the work to commence just before the school holidays was unfair to the many families on low incomes who are unable to bear the cost of travel to other facilities in the City? Can he join me in calling on the Council to provide free bus travel to other leisure centres during the school holidays?

The Leader of the Majority Opposition Group replied that he was surprised that the repairs would be timetabled for the summer holidays. He was assured, that when Labour was in power, the Council wouldn't do any short term closures of facilities at their busiest time of year. What problem did the Administration have with the City's young people and water? Whether it's Pickering Park or Ennerdale Leisure Centre, the Administration seemed to have an aversion to opening water facilities in the summer. If the Administration was hell bent on forcing that closure during the holiday period, there was something it could do. It was something the Labour Group did when Ennerdale Leisure Centre was shut for a much longer period. The Administration could do a deal with the bus companies that if you boarded a bus at the stop adjacent to the Ennerdale Leisure Centre, and got off at another leisure centre, they wouldn't be charged. He urged the Administration to look at the mechanism the Labour Group had previously put in place. For the poorest Wards in the City not to have access to a swimming pool in summer, wasn't good,

especially in a City where it is known 40% of residents didn't have access to a car.

Councillor T. Neal asked if the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services would provide an update on the provision of special school places in the City?

The Portfolio Holder for Children's Services replied that huge changes were taking place in the specialist education setting. The Council had finally received Government commitment to funding the build of Willowfield which will massively increase the Council's provision and options for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) requirements. That was an excellent piece of news, and she was grateful to everyone who had worked on the project. In addition to Willowfield, there had also been an increase in provision in the Council's Rising Star Pathway Scheme where the Council had created 25 new places for those with communication needs. Further expansion was being anticipated next year. Ganton School had added 27 places; Bridgeview School had expanded to support 40, and there was planned expansion at the Boulevard School. There were numerous other changes happening in this area of Children Services. She hoped that in the next few years the parents and carers of children with SEND requirements would see the benefits of those excellent changes being made at the Council.

Councillor McMurray asked the Leader of the City Council, Central Ward and the Beverley Road corridor was rife with drug misuse and addiction. Data he received recently showed there was a large concentration of supported accommodation for people addicted to drugs and as a result high crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB). The residents of Fountain Road and Spring Bank daily faced the result of such a high density of addiction on their doorstep. That high concentration also gave county lines gangs an easily accessible supply of customers and young people and children who were being exploited to take part in this trade. The high concentration of addiction also made it extremely difficult for addicts to recover. Despite all this, the Council went against his concerns to create more accommodation to

support addiction in the middle of this milieu. Since that had happened the local residents were facing more scenes of drug addicts gathering outside the local youth club and drinking heavily outside their homes in some cases recently, naked. There had been reports of children gaining access to this accommodation and local businesses having drug activity and associated ASB outside their homes. He believed the issues he had raised and the grooming of children to sell drugs was an emergency that was not being given the urgency it deserved. Would the Leader of the Council urgently review the impact of the Council's drug support commissioning and meet with him to discuss and review the issues he had raised today?

The Leader of the City Council replied that, yes, those were serious concerns. He was more than happy to look into the issues Councillor McMurray had raised and meet with him and the Portfolio Holder, if Councillor McMurray would care to contact him.

Councillor M. Collinson asked if the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Infrastructure would outline what the introduction of "digital parking permits" in Hull would mean for residents and visitors to the City?

The Portfolio Holder for Transport and Infrastructure replied that paper permits were still available to those who preferred them. However, virtual parking permits were a digital, paperless alternative to those traditional paper permits. Instead of displaying a physical permit, residents and staff would have the option to purchase a digital version online, which would be linked to their vehicle registration number. Parking Officers would validate the virtual permits through a handheld device, without requiring a visible display in the vehicle. Those digital permits would make parking management more convenient, efficient, and environmentally friendly. Applications could be made online or via the app., 24 hours a day, seven days a week, from wherever the user was, making the process quicker and easier for the customer. It should also reduce the cost to the Council of managing the system and, in turn, help keep the price down for residents.

Councillor Grozav asked if the Leader of the City Council, in January this year a motion was carried calling for the Cabinet to investigate to take action, where legal and financial barriers allow, to repair damaged roads within ten feet caused by regular vehicle use, whether by residents or Hull City Council, and clear drains in ten feet that are prone to flooding, could provide an update on what Cabinet have done on this?

The Leader of the City Council replied that Officers had reviewed the motion and had been undertaking the necessary due diligence to support its implementation. That work had identified several complex financial and legal issues which needed to be resolved. It included the complicated nature of land ownership in the relevant areas; interplay with relevant legislation, and responsibility for ongoing liabilities. Officers were currently working through those with a view to ensuring that the relevant works could proceed without the Council being placed at risk of challenge or adverse financial consequences. Once the Council had a legal framework that it could work with, a conversation could take place in Cabinet. He was sure that the last thing Councillor Grozav wanted was the Council breaking the law because it didn't take its time planning something.

Councillor McCobb asked the Deputy Leader of the City Council, while he welcomed the fact that this Liberal Democrat Administration was finally getting to grips with the aging and crumbling infrastructure they inherited in the City, why had so much been budgeted for bridges and structures and what would this funding be used for?

The Deputy Leader of the City Council replied that the answer was simply, in that there was a huge backlog to catch up on. It was only after the current Liberal Democrat Administration transformed the way bridges were assessed and checked for maintenance issues that it was able to get a clear picture of what was needed. The results were stark. The job was massive. There was a huge amount of work to do to keep the bridges and other structures functional for the City's residents and put the long list of issues right. Bridges and structures were

	<p>large, complex civil engineering projects which required significant investment. The investment that the Liberal Democrat Administration had committed to through its Plan would make the City's infrastructure safe and ensure the resilience of the network for the long term. The budget was big because the list was long, but the Liberal Democrat Administration was determined to make a start and deal with the problems.</p> <p>Councillor D. Thompson asked the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services, at the recent Young Persons' Workshop held at the Freedom Centre, participants spoke about the possibility of using a suitable vehicle to provide a much-needed mobile youth service provision across the City. Would the Portfolio Holder inform the Chamber if that was viable; how much the Council would be able to contribute, and would a bid be made to the Youth Investment Fund to do this?</p> <p>The Portfolio Holder for Children's Services replied that she fully supported the idea of changing the way the Council ran youth engagement programmes in the City. Where you could prove that something like a mobile youth service would be wanted and used, then she would give it her backing. This only came up two weeks ago, but she was pleased to be able to say that Officers were already looking closely at the scheme Councillor D. Thompson mentioned to see how it could work in Hull and where it would be used. The Youth Investment Fund that Councillor D. Thompson mentioned had now closed. She hoped the Council could apply to the new "Better Youth Spaces" programme to get appropriate funding. She would keep working with Members and Officers to identify opportunities, such as a bus, to change youth provision based on the feedback the Council received from the City's young people.</p> <p>Agreed – That the questions and answers be received.</p>	
45	<p>NOTICE OF MOTION</p> <p>That, with the agreement of the Chamber, Councillor Wareing withdrew his motion regarding Universal</p>	

	Credit and Personal Independence Payments.	
46	<p>NOTICE OF MOTION</p> <p>(Councillor M. Collinson declared a personal interest in minute 46, insofar as that one of his children was stated.</p> <p>Councillor Hale declared a personal interest in minute 46, insofar as his partner worked for the Department of Work and Pensions.)</p> <p>Moved by Councillor Bridges and seconded by Councillor Wareing as an amended motion:</p> <p>Council notes with grave concern the recent proposals from the Labour Government to reform welfare, including damaging changes to benefits that enable individuals with a disability to work and/or meet the costs of their additional needs because of their disabilities. These proposals have rightly provoked widespread public outcry and a rebellion among Labour backbench MPs.</p> <p>Council welcomes the limited U-turn forced upon the Government following this backlash but is deeply disappointed that it required pressure from within the governing party to prevent what would have been an immediate and devastating blow to hundreds of thousands of disabled people. The decision to delay the changes pending the outcome of the Timms Review offers only temporary reprieve, not genuine reassurance. Council remains unconvinced that the Government has abandoned its intention to impose punitive cuts on those least able to bear them.</p> <p>This Council condemns any attempt, by any Government, regardless of political party, to scapegoat disabled people and other vulnerable groups for the challenges facing our welfare system. It is unacceptable that a Labour Government is pursuing policies that mirror the austerity-driven logic of previous Conservative administrations: targeting the poor while failing to confront pandemic profiteers, corporate tax evaders, and the ultra-wealthy.</p>	Leader of the Council/ Chief Executive

Council notes that in Hull's three Parliamentary Constituencies, there are approximately 25,100 PIP claimants, with an additional 10,997 in the East Riding, representing over 36,000 individuals who stand to be affected by these proposals. Council affirms that people with disabilities should not be treated as a financial burden to be managed, but as citizens with equal rights to dignity, security, and support.

Council further recalls its previous unanimous support for a motion urging the Government to raise revenue by taxing the wealthiest in society and recovering public funds lost to Covid-era fraud and waste, rather than by cutting support to those most in need.

Council therefore resolves to:

1. Recognise the eventual U-turn in the House of Commons, in response to the pressure from Labour MPs and the setting up of the 'Timms Review' into the reform of disabilities benefits, which will rightly consult with recipients of disability support and the organisations that support them. The Government must give a commitment to accepting the recommendations that come from the review and also commit that any reforms are fundamentally compatible with the principles of social justice.
2. Requests the Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council to write to the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Hull's three Members of Parliament expressing in the strongest terms our opposition to the Government's welfare reform agenda, and calling for a full reversal of any policy that undermines the rights and protections of disabled people.
3. Reaffirm this Council's unwavering commitment to stand in solidarity with all disabled residents and benefit claimants in Hull and beyond, and to resist any attempt to weaken the welfare safety net under the guise of reform.

	<p>4. Call for a commitment from the Government to accept the recommendations that come from the Timms Review, and that any reforms are fundamentally compatible with the principles of social justice.</p> <p>Councillors Haines, M. Collinson and McMurray also spoke on the motion.</p> <p>Councillor Bridges then exercised her right of reply on the motion.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>	
47	<p>NOTICE OF MOTION</p> <p>(Councillor Herrera-Richmond declared a personal interest in minute 47, insofar as he resided in one of the areas referred to in the motion.)</p> <p>Moved by Councillor Haines and seconded by Councillor Wilkinson:</p> <p>Council notes that some recent “new build” residential developments oblige the freehold owner(s) to pay estate or service charges, such charges are colloquially referred to as “fleecehold”. These charges are often paid to private firms that are responsible for certain communal features on the new build estate. In practice, these charges are often difficult to challenge with little oversight on how the charges are used for the benefit of the community in which they live.</p> <p>Council further notes that these charges come on top of Council Tax and not instead of, and that some homeowners and renters from across the area could end up being forced to pay exorbitant fees to estate management companies for services that other residents receive from the local Council.</p> <p>Council believes that there is a lack of clarity and understanding as to what these charges are for, who operates the system of charges and the legal framework of accepting and challenging the fees.</p> <p>Council resolves to call on the Government to work cross-party and consider a law change that would protect homebuyers by making sure all the required</p>	Director of Legal Services and Partnerships/ Director of Regeneration

	<p>infrastructure is in place before new properties are built.</p> <p>Council also resolves to ask the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to investigate the matter, seeking clarification on the legal status of these service charges, the use of them across the City and by whom, and to develop advice and guidance which can be published to relevant residents.</p> <p>Sources:</p> <p>https://www.ivybridge-today.co.uk/news/mps-demand-regulation-on-fleecehold-property-firms-amid-backlash-787247</p> <p>https://www.mortgagesolutions.co.uk/news/2024/06/13/labour-promise-to-build-1-5-million-homes-and-end-fleecehold-in-manifesto/</p> <p>https://www.helenmorgan.org.uk/news/article/helen-morgan-demands-end-to-fleecehold-nightmare</p> <p>Councillors Hale, Byrne, Herrera-Richmond, Petrini and Quinn also spoke on the motion.</p> <p>Councillor Haines then exercised his right of reply on the motion.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>	
	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p> <p>The meeting stood adjourned at 12.05 p.m. and reconvened at 12.45 p.m.</p>	
48	<p>NOTICE OF MOTION</p> <p>(Councillor Hale declared a personal interest in minute 48, insofar as he was a member of the Labour and Cooperative Party.)</p> <p>Moved by Councillor Quinn and seconded by Councillor Hofman:</p> <p>Council notes Hull has been awarded Fairtrade City status since 2005, and in 2025 Hull celebrates 20 years of supporting Fairtrade and the ethos of</p>	<p>Director of Legal Services and Partnerships/ Director of Regeneration</p>

promoting social justice that it represents.

The multi-sector Hull Fairtrade Partnership Group, supported by Hull City Council, promotes the Fairtrade message through events and campaigns. This year, in addition to those, the City now has 'Fairtrade City' signs installed at most of the boundaries; a City Centre flowerbed is displaying the Fairtrade logo, and the buildings in Queen Victoria Square will be lit up in the Fairtrade colours for several evenings in September.

Council resolves to renew and reaffirm its commitment to, and support for, the Fairtrade movement, recognising the value that Fairtrade brings to farmers and workers who produce goods for us, by enabling them to improve their living standards, invest in their communities and businesses, and protect our shared environment.

Council also resolves to continue to work with others in the City to promote Fairtrade values and provide information on the practical steps we can all take to ensure farmers and workers can provide for their families, develop their communities sustainably and take on the worst effects of climate change.

Council recognises, as part of its own commitment to deal with the effects of climate change, that a commitment to Fairtrade is also a commitment to a greener, fairer future globally.

To this end, Hull City Council resolves to:

- Ask the Executive to ensure that the Council offers Fairtrade food and drink options internally and in our catering offer, also consider Fairtrade cotton for staff uniforms and other opportunities to use Fairtrade products.
- Ask the Executive to ensure that a commitment to fairer trade is recognised as a way to deliver against other sustainability commitments.
- Make sure posts promoting Fairtrade and celebrating the local Fairtrade City commitment are regularly posted on social

	<p>media channels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use influence to encourage local businesses to offer Fairtrade options. • Continue to nominate Council representatives (Members and Officers) to be active members of the Hull Fairtrade Partnership Group and support ongoing work to promote Fairtrade. • Support local Fairtrade events, including by providing facilities where local campaigners can meet and host events. • Organise events and publicity during National Fairtrade Fortnight, the annual national campaign to promote sales of products with the Fairtrade Mark. <p>Sources:</p> <p>https://news.hull.gov.uk/01/08/2023/hulls-fairtrade-commitment-recognised/</p> <p>https://news.hull.gov.uk/13/02/2025/signs-erected-to-celebrate-20-years-as-a-fairtrade-city-for-hull/</p> <p>Councillors Hale, Pritchard and Beeson also spoke on the motion.</p> <p>Councillor Quinn then exercised his right of reply on the motion.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>	
49	<p>NOTICE OF MOTION</p> <p>(Councillor Wood declared a personal interest in minute 49, insofar as she worked on a community project on Council owned land.)</p> <p>Moved by Councillor Kennett and seconded by Councillor A. Thompson as an amended motion:</p> <p>Context:</p> <p>The Council has recently passed a Right to Grow (RTG) motion and approved a policy for its</p>	Director of Regeneration

implementation on 24th March, 2025. The RTG policy encourages biodiversity and nature friendly growing practices, and the Council notes the importance of leading by example and its wider commitment to sustainability. Glyphosate is a possible carcinogen, has a negative impact on wider biodiversity and is unsightly from a visual point of view post application.

Key facts/points to note:

- It is both nationally and internationally recognised that glyphosate-based herbicides have an impact on soil health and biodiversity. Other local authorities, towns and cities have banned or phased out the use of glyphosate, as of 2024, the list of towns and cities in the UK that are pesticide free or phasing out their use is 49. Multiple case studies exist in the UK with demonstrable positive feedback and outcomes.
- Hull City Council has made significant reductions in Glyphosate use in green spaces over the past 3 years. In this time glyphosate use has been reduced by over 20%. Since last year we have also ceased spraying glyphosate in all pocket parks in Hull, as well as 3 of our major Parks – East Park, Pickering Park and Pearson Park. We now need to look at how we continue phasing out the use of glyphosates and other harmful chemicals in our parks, open spaces and communities.
- Research has demonstrated the negative environmental impact of glyphosate, including impacts on non-target plant species, birds and other environmental impacts such as on soil microorganisms.
- The World Health Authority has identified Glyphosate as a “probably Human carcinogen”, however research continues to be carried out to understand the impact and significance particularly due to its potential to persist in the environment, water, soil and food chain. Poor soil health increases water runoff and risk of flood, it also reduces the

volume or absorption of soils. Whilst there is no clear consensus the general direction of research supports consideration of alternatives and replacement for Glyphosate.

- The wider decline in biodiversity is well understood to be a global emergency, with impacts at all scales. At a local level, the recent State of Yorkshire's Nature report has documented a 25% drop in almost one in five species in the county. Our towns and cities are increasingly becoming havens for wildlife and are recognised as a critical interface between people and nature: providing ways to engage positively and incorporate good practices. As such, any possible way of minimising any adverse environmental or health impact of glyphosate should be considered.

Council resolves to ask the Executive to:

- Implement a phased reduction in Glyphosate and other Glyphosate based herbicide on Council owned land (including work conducted by both Hull City Council staff and its authorised contractors and business tenants) resulting in an 80% reduction by April, 2030. Glyphosate should only be used in particular circumstances when alternatives are not possible.
- Develop an alternative weed management strategy to include non-chemical alternatives to glyphosate weed management, or acceptance of the existence of wildflowers and plants as being part of a biodiverse urban ecosystem.
- Train relevant Council operatives in outputs of the weed management strategy.
- Develop and implement a clear communication plan, including: (i) engaging those participating in RTG activities to act as ambassadors of good herbicide and pesticide practice; (ii) to support understanding of wild plants, the benefits of biodiversity positive practices to encourage residents to engage

with alternative strategies; (iii) use of signage to advertise the reasons why more wild plants may be establishing, and the benefits of that to people and wildlife, and (iv) establish a communication strategy that provides information about the visual impact of using less chemicals, and the positive reasons for implementing the changes (including improved flood management through soil health).

Sources:

<https://cmis.hullcc.gov.uk/cmis/CalendarofMeetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/10748/Committee/3/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx>

<https://www.weedingtech.com/pesticide-free-towns-in-the-uk/>

<https://www.pan-uk.org/pesticide-free-towns-success-stories/>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0301479721008483>

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<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11356-016-7425-3>

<https://www.iarc.who.int/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/MonographVolume112-1.pdf>

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11356-016-7425-3>

https://issuu.com/yorkshirewildlifetrust/docs/240603_state_of_yorkshires_nature_report_2024_final

Councillors Henry, Quinn, Wood and Beeson also spoke on the motion.

Councillor Kennett then exercised her right of reply on the motion.

Motion carried.

50	<p>NOTICE OF MOTION</p> <p>(Councillor Bridges declared a personal interest in minute 50, insofar as she was a member of the Horizon Academy Trust.)</p> <p>Moved by Councillor Smith and seconded by Councillor Wood as an amended motion:</p> <p>Council notes that the Liberal Democrat Group argued, several months ago, that they could make no firm commitment to some funding for school uniforms as the Labour Government had not, at that point, confirmed funding for the Household Support Fund (HSF).</p> <p>Council welcomes the HSF allocation from the Labour Government that was later confirmed as a full year allocation.</p> <p>Council also notes the continued pressure on families to provide school uniforms at a time when cost-of-living challenges remain, and that, despite a Labour led recommendation from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on 16th May, 2025, to increase the amount allocated to school uniforms in the HSF to reflect inflationary pressures, the Liberal Democrat Cabinet committed £56,000 after considering previous Council motions put forward by the Labour Group, that was later amended and carried unanimously.</p> <p>Council resolves to call on the Leader of the Council and the Liberal Democrat Cabinet to revisit the allocation in the HSF for School Uniform Grants and increase it by at least the rate of inflation, and to ensure this fund is widely advertised, including how to claim it.</p> <p>Sources:</p> <p>Household Support Fund 2025/26 (HSF7) and Final Outturn for October 2024 to 31 March 2025 (HFS6)</p> <p>https://cmis.hullcc.gov.uk/CMIS/Document.ashx?czJKcaeAi5tUFL1DTL2UE4zNRBcoShgo=Cng1GLXU0B%2bp65yVnsZh0vveolAQII7CtZaMnwlgOH%2fol33xzEuisQ%3d%3d&rUzwRPf%2bZ3zd4E7Ikn8Lyw%3d%3d=pwRE6AGJFLDNih225F5QMaQWCtPHwdhUfCZ%2fLUQzgA2uL5jNRG4jdQ%3d%3d&mCTI</p>	Leader of the Council
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	<p><u>bCubSFfXsDGW9IXnlg%3d%3d=jUgQCaU3L68%3d&kCx1AnS9%2fpWZQ40DXFvdEw%3d%3d=g1LYOWZXK4A%3d&uJovDxwdjMPoYv%2bAJvYtyA%3d%3d=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&FgPIIEJYlotS%2bYGoBi5olA%3d%3d=NHdURQburHA%3d&d9Qjj0ag1Pd993jsyOJqFvmyB7X0CSQK=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&WGewmoAfeNR9xqBux0r1Q8Za60lavYmz=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&WGewmoAfeNQ16B2MHuCpMRKZMwaG1PaO=ctNJFf55vVA%3d</u></p> <p>Councillors Grozav, Hale, Ross, A. Thompson and Bridges also spoke on the motion.</p> <p>Councillor Smith then exercised her right of reply on the motion.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>	
51	<p>NOTICE OF MOTION</p> <p>Moved by Councillor Conner and seconded by Councillor Wilkinson:</p> <p>Council recognises the passing of Lord Prescott who was one of the City’s longest serving Members of Parliament having represented the City in the House of Commons for forty years including ten as Deputy Prime Minister.</p> <p>Council requests that the Leader use some of his capital budget to pay for a statue in East Hull to remember the late Lord Prescott to be erected at a location decided upon by the East Area Committee following consultation with members and the public.</p> <p>Sources:</p> <p><u>https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c7221mz2glldo</u></p> <p>Councillors Petrini, McMurray, Ross, Bridges, Hale, Harper, M. Collinson, McCobb, Harrison, Jepmond and Nicola also spoke on the motion.</p> <p>Moved by Councillor Herrera-Richmond and seconded by Councillor Hale as a procedural motion:</p> <p>That paragraph 19.10.2 of the Council Procedure Rules be suspended to allow the following</p>	

<p>amendment to be made to the motion:</p> <p>In the second paragraph, delete “pay”, and insert “contribute to seed/core funding, in consultation with Lord Prescott’s family,”.</p> <p>Procedural motion carried.</p> <p>So the amended motion reads:</p> <p>Council recognises the passing of Lord Prescott who was one of the City’s longest serving Members of Parliament having represented the City in the House of Commons for forty years including ten as Deputy Prime Minister.</p> <p>Council requests that the Leader use some of his capital budget to contribute to seed/core funding, in consultation with Lord Prescott’s family, for a statue in East Hull to remember the late Lord Prescott to be erected at a location decided upon by the East Area Committee following consultation with members and the public.</p> <p>Sources:</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c7221mz2glldo</p> <p>Councillor Conner then exercised her right of reply on the amended motion.</p> <p>With the voting being equal, the Lord Mayor used her second and casting vote, and the amended motion was lost.</p>	
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Start: 10.15 a.m.

Finish: 2.30 p.m.