



COUNCIL SUMMONS

To Members of the Metropolitan Borough Council

Dear Councillor

You are requested to attend a Meeting of the Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council to be held on **Thursday 23rd April, 2015 at 6.30 pm at the Town Hall, Southport** to transact the business set out on the agenda overleaf.

Yours sincerely,



Chief Executive

Town Hall,
Southport

Wednesday 15 April 2015

Please contact Steve Pearce, Democratic Services Manager
on 0151 934 2046 or e-mail steve.pearce@sefton.gov.uk

We endeavour to provide a reasonable number of full agendas, including reports at the meeting. If you wish to ensure that you have a copy to refer to at the meeting, please can you print off your own copy of the agenda pack prior to the meeting.

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A G E N D A

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are requested to give notice of any disclosable pecuniary interest, which is not already included in their Register of Members' Interests and the nature of that interest, relating to any item on the agenda in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct, before leaving the meeting room during the discussion on that particular item.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

(Pages 7 - 22)

Minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2015

4. Mayor's Communications

Public Session

5. Matters Raised by the Public

(Pages 23 -
24)

To deal with matters raised by members of the public resident within the Borough, of which notice has been given in accordance with the procedures relating to public questions, motions or petitions set out in Paragraph 36 to 46 of the Council and Committee Procedure Rules in Chapter 4 of the Council Constitution.

The details of a public petition received are set out in the attached note.

Council Business Session

6. Questions Raised by Members of the Council

To receive and consider questions to Cabinet Members, Chairs of Committees or Spokespersons for any of the Joint Authorities upon any matter within their portfolio/area of responsibility, of which notice has been given by Members of the Council in accordance with Paragraph 48 to 50 of the Council and Committee Procedure Rules, set out in Chapter 4 of the Council Constitution.

7. Public Health Annual Report 2014

(Pages 25 -
74)

Report of the Director of Public Health

8. Whistleblowing Policy and Constitutional Amendments

(Pages 75 -
88)

Report of the Director of Corporate Services

9. Membership of Committees 2014/15

To consider any changes to the Membership of any committees etc.

10. Notice of Motion Submitted by Councillor Hardy

To consider the following Motion submitted by Councillor Hardy:

1. The Council resolves to write to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs expressing the concern of the Council at both current charges and proposed further water service charges affecting Sefton Council.
2. The Council asks the Secretary of State to note that surface water highway drainage charges applied by United Utilities to local authorities are already charged at the highest rates in England and Wales. Her attention is drawn to United Utilities proposing to phase-in new and further charges for Council premises and open spaces from April 2016 at a time when this Council has sustained prolonged and unprecedented reductions in budget.
3. The Secretary of State is also asked to note the significant difference between what Council's within the United Utilities region are charged and what level of water service charges are applied to local authorities by all other water and sewerage companies in other regions. The following examples are noted:
 - Department for Education Consistent Financial Reporting data shows that in 2012/13, schools in the North West region paid a total of £27 million for water/sewerage, whereas schools in the South East paid £11 million. Both regions roughly have similar numbers of schools and pupils yet an extra £16 million of added charges are applied in our region.
 - United Utilities have indicated intent to phase in added charges to the six Greater Merseyside local authorities of £2,430,000 from April 2016. No other district outside the North West will face such extensive additional charging.
4. The Council calls upon the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to commission an independent review of the differing scale of charges facing public sector services for water and sewerage services, similar in scope to the 2009 Walker Review of household charging and they are

asked to revise guidance on concessionary schemes that relate to Section 43 of the Flood & Water Management Act 2010 to make clear that community assets managed by local authorities can be included within a concessionary scheme.