



## 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 13th July, 2017 at 6.30 pm at the Town Hall, Southport** to transact the business set out on the agenda overleaf.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Carney".

Chief Executive

Town Hall,  
Southport

Wednesday 5 July 2017

Please contact Steve Pearce, Democratic Services Manager  
on 0151 934 2046 or e-mail [steve.pearce@sefton.gov.uk](mailto: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 Meetings**

Minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 11 May 2017; the Adjourned Annual Council meeting held on 16 May 2017 and the Extra-ordinary Council meeting held on 20 June 2017

(Pages 11 -  
34)

**4. Mayor's Communications**

**Public Session**

**5. Matters Raised by the Public**

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.

**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 2016**

Report of the Director of Public Health

(Pages 35 -  
66)

**8. Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2016/17**

Report attached

(Pages 67 -  
98)

9. **Proposed Public Space Protection Order-Dog Control** (Pages 99 - 148)  
Report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance
10. **Membership of Committees 2017/18** (Pages 149 - 154)  
Report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance
11. **Contract Procedure Rules** (Pages 155 - 214)  
Report of the Head of Commissioning Support and Business Intelligence

12. **Motion Submitted by Councillor Bennett**

To consider the following Motion submitted by Councillor Bennett:

Cuts to Police Force Budgets

“The Council recognises the vital role played by Merseyside Police Service and thanks our police officers for the work they do in protecting our residents and in many cases putting their own lives at risk when tackling crime.

The Council considers that it is not only the Metropolitan Police Force that should be strengthened as terrorism and organised crime is spread across the country, and to do so only highlights the north/south divide.

The Council notes that;

- significant threats remain of violent crime and terrorism and that police officers consistently play the essential role in keeping order and halting terrorist atrocities.
- The latest Home Office figures show that between September 2010 and September 2016 the number of police officers in English and Welsh forces fell by 18,991, or 13%.
- As of March 2016, there were 5,639 authorised firearms officers in England and Wales, down from 6,976 in March 2010. The National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) says that an additional 640 firearms officers have been recruited in the last year and plans are in place to bring the number of armed police back up to around 7,000 by next year. This is only being partly funded by the Government and some of the Police Forces must find some of the cash themselves.
- The numbers of special constables and police community

support officers (PCSOs) who patrol the streets have fallen by 7% and 11% respectively in the past year alone, and simply comparing budget cuts to performance does not take account of demographic differences and crime levels. So while it is true to say that policing is being protected at least to some extent, this comes off the back of five years of deep cuts.

- Merseyside Police is approaching breaking point as the staff fighting a surge in shootings are “stretched to the limits”. That is the stark warning from Chief Constable Andy Cooke, who warned further planned budgets cuts could lead to low-level incidents not being responded to. His words came as Merseyside Police battles a gun crime epidemic while struggling to come to terms with the loss of more than 1,000 officers since 2010.
- Seven years of cuts have seen the Merseyside Police workforce slashed to such an extent that the Chief Constable, who has spent three decades in the police, has “never known a situation where Merseyside Police officers have been pushed to the limit in dealing with everything we need to deal with to keep our communities safe”. The force’s budget has already been reduced by almost £100m, but further cuts are expected to lead to the loss of more officers over the next three years. If those cuts become a reality, Chief Constable Cooke fears the public will see “a significant reduction in the service offered to them”.
- The primary duties of the Police are the protection of life and property, preservation of the peace, and prevention and detection of criminal offences which will become more difficult and unsustainable with continued cuts to the police.

This Council resolves:

1. To write to the Home Secretary indicating its opposition to any further cuts to the police forces and in particular the Merseyside Police and demanding that more money is made available for our Police Forces to enable them to carry out their duties and protect the citizens; and
2. To put on record its thanks to the Chief Constable of Merseyside Police and all officers, past and present for the excellent work they have done and continue to do in

addressing crime in Merseyside.”

### **13. Motion submitted by Councillor Carragher**

To consider the following Motion submitted by Councillor Carragher:

#### **Breast is Best**

“Sefton Council strongly encourages mothers to breastfeed. The Health and Wellbeing Strategy actively promotes breast feeding as the best start in life, and as such it is encouraged by NHS and community breastfeeding support staff. *In spite of this, the Council will not discriminate against any woman in her chosen method of infant feeding and will fully support her in the decision she has made.*

Breastfeeding is the healthiest way to feed a baby and there are important health benefits for both mother and child. Despite this, Sefton still has one of the lowest rates of breastfeeding in the UK. The most recent statistics for Sefton tell us that 57.7% of new mothers start breastfeeding, but that this rapidly declines to 29.8% after just 6-8 weeks.

The World Health Organisation recommends exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 months of a baby’s life. Mothers often stop breastfeeding exclusively around 4-6 months of age, perhaps because they have returned to work. However, returning to work does not mean that women have to stop breastfeeding. Legislation is in place protecting new mothers in the workplace. Employees of the Council who are breastfeeding are covered under these regulations (can add reference).

Sefton Council actively promotes breast feeding to new mothers, and it is acknowledged that the Council should create a breastfeeding friendly working environment. In so doing the Council will act as role model for other employers. Benefits include, reduced levels of sickness amongst mothers and babies, increased staff morale and an extra incentive to offer potential employees.

The Council will ensure that a Sefton Council workplace breastfeeding policy is implemented that includes ; break allowances so that mothers can express milk; provision of a clean, warm and private room for expressing milk; a fridge to store expressed milk and flexible working hours for breastfeeding mothers.

In addition, the Council will ensure:

- That breastfeeding is permitted and welcomed in all

public areas of the council

- That under no circumstances will a breastfeeding mother be asked to move, cover up or stop feeding her baby
- That objections to breastfeeding in any public place are tactfully but robustly challenged
- The development and implementation of a breastfeeding policy based on the UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative Standard, relevant NICE guidance and the Healthy Child Programme. The policy will be a collaboration involving families, health care professionals and the voluntary sector.
- That no Council or partner agency condones the promotion of infant formula through aggressive marketing techniques, or non-evidence based claims of health benefits.
- However, the Council, whilst actively promoting breast feeding will not discriminate against any woman in her chosen method of infant feeding and will fully support her in the decision that she feels is best suitable for her well being.”

#### **14. Motion Submitted by Councillor Hardy**

To consider the following Motion submitted by Councillor Hardy:

##### Gun and Gang Crime

“Events in the last months have highlighted significant challenges to maintaining the safety of our communities and the confidence of the public in those agencies tasked with keeping them safe. This is a time of unprecedented challenges for agencies working in Community Safety Partnerships.

During recent months the country has faced three terror attacks and the terror level has reached “critical”. At the same time, the Liverpool City Region has seen seven firearms discharges in seven days, one of which resulted in the murder of an 18 year old boy, as well as having to deal with an English Defence League rally in Liverpool City Centre.

Individually, and separately, these issues have led to heightened fears of violence across the region; people are

scared and more needs to be done by the Government to address this.

Years of severe austerity cuts to policing, local authority and other public sector budgets have made it harder for partners to take the steps required to identify and challenge those engaging in terror and some of the most serious criminal activity that is currently blighting our communities.

Since 2010, Merseyside Police has lost £84 million from its budget, and is still required to deliver a further £18 million savings before 2021/22. This equates, in real terms, to 1,022 less police officers in Merseyside than there were 7 years ago and the implementation of a functional model that moves away from the Neighbourhood Policing model that had served our communities so effectively and delivered year on year reductions in reported crime and anti-social behaviour.

At the same time the Government continues to impose significant cuts in funding for local authorities. By the end of 2017/18 the Council will have met a funding shortfall of approximately £200m since 2010 and by 2020 Sefton will have had a real terms cut in funding of 51%.

Given the amount of money already saved and the scale of the funding cuts still to come, the council is now in a position where it simply cannot continue to provide the same levels of service. Whilst every effort has been made to protect front-line services, this is becoming increasingly difficult. Many council services have already been reduced or stopped entirely. The council's workforce has been reduced accordingly since 2010 and this impacts upon our ability to appropriately support the Community Safety agenda.

At this time appropriate funding is required to enable Merseyside Police and other partners involved in the Community Safety and Prevent agendas to identify and challenge those potentially involved in terrorism or those who engage in incidents of serious violence within our communities.

A reactionary approach alone is not sufficient and the Police and other agencies in the Liverpool City Region require additional funding to support prevention activity that seeks to work with those at risk of radicalisation or offending and to improve community cohesion in some of our hardest to reach communities.

**This Council therefore** calls upon the Government to:

- (i) Support Merseyside Police to meet these “unprecedented challenges” by increasing funding for



Merseyside Police and halting the cuts that they are required to deliver by 2020; and

- (ii) Financially support other agencies affected by the Prevent and Guns & Gangs agendas, including Local Authorities, through the direct funding of local prevention teams with a dedicated remit of:-
- (a) challenging and supporting communities;
  - (b) utilising any lawful means to deliver behaviour change; and
  - (c) offering those who are radicalised, or are involved in serious organised crime, a pathway out.”

#### **15. Motion submitted by Councillor Pullin**

To consider the following Motion submitted by Councillor Pullin:

“Following the tragedy of Grenfell Tower and the discovery of many of the nation’s high-rise homes being covered in non-fire resistant cladding, The Council recognises:

- That the concerns and worries of the residents must be met and homes must be made safe.
- That many residents who live in our nations tower blocks rely on social housing, many of which are on low incomes and are some of most vulnerable in society.
- That, if the cost of re-cladding tower blocks are to be met by their owners (Councils, housing associations or private landlords) then these costs are likely to be passed on to residents or will mean cutting of other services.
- That the passing on of costs or cutting services adversely affect the poorer and most vulnerable more.
- That landlords, through the lack of resources or an inability to raise resources, may do nothing and thus leave residents living in potentially dangerous homes.
- That the government’s own figures estimate the number of tall residential buildings which potentially have similar cladding as Grenfell Tower to be around 600.
- The Council acknowledges that it has neither the financial or human resources to respond to this issue.

Therefore this Council:

- Instructs the Chief Executive to write on the Council’s

behalf to the Prime Minister and Communities Secretary, with a copy to local MPs constituencies within the Borough, expressing that the government should consider this as a civil emergency and express the Councils wish that where housing within a local authority area proves to be of concern and where there are no immediate funds to rectify the issues are available, that the Government (the SoS for Communities and Local Government) sets aside sufficient funding for capital works and also for local authorities to access to deal with any homelessness issues that may arise.”