

# Sefton Council



## 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 21st September, 2017 at 6.30 pm at the Town Hall, Bootle** to

transact the business set out on the agenda overleaf.

Yours sincerely,



Chief Executive

Town Hall,  
Southport

Wednesday 13 September 2017

Please contact Ruth Harrison, Democratic Services Manager  
on 0151 934 2046 or e-mail [ruth.harrison@sefton.gov.uk](mailto:ruth.harrison@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 9 - 24)

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2017

**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.

(Details of any further petitions notified or questions submitted by members of the public will be circulated at the meeting).

**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. Capital Budget Update 2017/18**

(Pages 25 -  
28)

Report of the Head of Corporate Resources

**8. Revenue and Capital Budget Plan 2016/17 - 2019/20 - Prudential Indicators 2017/18**

(Pages 29 -  
34)

- 9. Discretionary Relief for Business Rates following the Revaluation of 2017** (Pages 35 - 46)  
Report of the Head of Corporate Resources
- 10. Adoption of the Sefton Coast Plan** (Pages 47 - 168)  
Report of the Executive Director
- 11. Amendment to the Scheme of Members Allowances 2017/18** (Pages 169 - 172)  
Report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance
- 12. Constitutional Changes** (Pages 173 - 176)  
Report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance
- 13. Membership of Committees 2017/18** (Pages 177 - 182)  
Report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance

**14. Motion submitted by Councillor Roscoe**

To consider the following Motion submitted by Councillor Roscoe:

Motion in relation to Betting Machines

This Council notes:

1. The prevalence of Fixed Odds Betting Terminals (FOBTs) in betting shops, often referred to in the media as “the crack cocaine of gambling”.
2. That, unlike fruit machines in pubs, bingo halls and amusement arcades where cash stakes are limited to £2, gamblers can bet with cash or via a debit card up to £100 every 20 seconds on FOBTs, more than four times as fast as the rate of play in casinos.
3. That in 2012, over £1.5bn was lost on FOBTs across the UK. More profit was made from FOBTs than from the National Lottery, when according to the most recent British Gambling Prevalence Survey, 56% of the population play the Lottery, but just 4% play FOBTs.
4. Empirical evidence that suggests FOBTs are the most addictive form of gambling.
5. Research carried out by Geofutures, which found there to be four times as many betting shops in areas of high unemployment than in areas of low unemployment.
6. This same research estimates that £207,480,458 was

- lost on FOBTs in Sefton in 2016 alone.
7. Nationally, more than 80% of turnover in betting shops and more than half of profits are derived from FOBTs. Less than 20% of stakes in betting shops are over the counter.
  8. A recent economic analysis undertaken by Landman Economics, commissioned by the Campaign for Fairer Gambling, which assessed the impact of FOBTs on local economies and across the wider economy. The report concluded that every £1bn spent on FOBTs produces a net reduction of 13,000 jobs, compared to if spent in the wider consumer economy. The projected doubling of revenue from FOBTs by 2023 could cost a further 23,000 jobs across the economy.
  9. Concern that the Government has not addressed the issues caused by FOBTs, and the announcement made by Maria Miller MP, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, on 10 October 2013 in response to the Triennial Review of gaming machine stakes and prizes, where the stakes on FOBTs were unchanged.
  10. The Government has proposed measures that will require players who wish to stake over £50 per spin to seek permission from staff. This wrongly implies stakes up to £50 are safe, and that staff intervention is an effective means of ensuring player protection.
  11. The position in the Republic of Ireland where the Government has introduced legislation to outlaw FOBTs in betting shops.

This Council believes that the increase in FOBTs is causing significant problems and believes that the Government should either use the existing legislative framework, or introduce legislation to outlaw B2 casino games in betting shops.

Sefton Council launched a young people's outreach problem gambling programme (BigDeal) delivered through Beacon Counselling Trust and GamCare. Awareness raising sessions for groups of young people and training for professionals working with this age group which provides information about risks that problem gambling poses and how to recognise signs and symptoms. Beacon Counselling Trust also provides free problem gambling counselling to individuals and family members affected by the issue.

At the very least, local authorities should be given the powers to protect the local amenity and wellbeing of communities by:

- (1) stopping the proliferation of betting shops and
- (2) reducing the maximum stakes and slowing down the speed of play.

This Council therefore requests:

1. The Chief Executive writes to Helen Grant MP recommending a reduction in the maximum bet per spin on FOBTs to £2.
2. The Chief Executive writes to the three Sefton MPs, Peter Dowd, Bill Esterson and Damien Moore declaring this Council's support for their proposal under the Sustainable Communities Act, which calls on the Government to reduce the maximum bet per spin on FOBTs to £2.

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

To consider the following Motion submitted by Councillor Lappin

### Motion in relation to NJC Pay to Councils

This Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council notes that:

- NJC basic pay has fallen by 21% since 2010 in real terms
- NJC workers had a three-year pay freeze from 2010-2012 compounded in Sefton by an incremental freeze for several years too
- Local terms and conditions of many NJC employees have also been cut, impacting on their overall earnings
- NJC pay is the lowest in the public sector
- Job evaluated pay structures are being squeezed and distorted by bottom-loaded NJC pay settlements needed to reflect the increased National Living Wage and the Foundation Living Wage
- There are growing equal and fair pay risks resulting from this situation

This council therefore supports the NJC pay claim for 2018, submitted by UNISON, GMB and Unite on behalf of council and school workers and calls for the immediate end of public sector pay restraint. NJC pay cannot be allowed to fall further behind other parts of the public sector. This council also welcomes the joint review of the NJC pay spine to remedy the turbulence caused by bottom-loaded pay settlements.

This council also notes the drastic ongoing cuts to local government funding and calls on the Government to provide

additional funding to fund a decent pay rise for NJC employees and the pay spine review.

This council therefore resolves to:

- Call immediately on the LGA to make urgent representations to Government to fund the NJC claim and the pay spine review and notify us of their action in this regard
- Write to the Prime Minister and Chancellor supporting the NJC pay claim and seeking additional funding to fund a decent pay rise and the pay spine review
- Meet with local NJC union representatives to convey support for the pay claim and the pay spine review

#### **16. Motion submitted by Councillor Friel**

To consider the following Motion submitted by Councillor Friel:

##### Motion in relation to the Campaign "Tyred"

On Monday 10 September 2012 a coach bound for Liverpool carrying 53 people from the Bestival music festival on the Isle of Wight, left the road and crashed into a tree instantly killing Michael Molloy (18), Kerry Ogden (23) and the coach driver, Colin Daulby (63), and left others with life changing injuries.

The inquest into the crash found that the front nearside tyre which was actually older than the coach itself, at 19 years, was responsible for the crash.

Michael's mother Frances is campaigning for a change in the law requiring a ban on tyres older than ten years on commercial vehicles.

Despite the wide spread public and political support for this campaign, no change in the law has been made, shamefully leaving others at risk from faulty dangerous tyres.

This Council:

- notes that Frances has launched 'Tyred' - the official campaign to pressure Government - to change the law to ban the use of tyres older than ten years on public service vehicles (buses, coaches and minibuses).
- wholeheartedly supports 'Tyred' and requests that the Leader of the Council writes to the Prime Minister and

Leader of the Opposition to seek cross-party support for a change in the law.

**17. Motion submitted by Councillor Dawson**

To consider the following Motion submitted by Councillor Dawson:

Motion in relation to Overview and Scrutiny – Call In Procedure

This Council:

- recognises that to maintain any semblance of being genuinely democratic, the operation of 'Cabinet government' within Local Authorities requires genuine open and engaging scrutiny and review processes including call-in procedures.
- notes that the extent and frequency utilisation of the process of call-in within Sefton MBC has, to date, been moderate and considered
- commits itself to engaging positively with those members of the Council who make call-in requests to ensure that the spirit of the legislation which created scrutiny processes is adhered to and that the best and most widely-supported decisions can be arrived at
- recognises that the best decisions are often made where those Councillors and community organisations which have a particular knowledge and concern about the specific issues concerned are permitted to be involved in pre-scrutiny of key decisions before they are made
- recommends to the Sefton MBC Cabinet that the Cabinet should instruct the Officers of the Council involved in preparing decisions for Cabinet Members to always consider which organisations and councillors might be usefully involved in commenting upon draft decisions before they are made, through either formal or informal pre-scrutiny processes