

**COUNCIL**

**MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, SOUTHPORT  
ON THURSDAY 15TH NOVEMBER, 2018**

**PRESENT:** The Mayor (Councillor Robinson) in the Chair  
The Deputy Chair (Councillor Brennan) Vice Chair

Councillors Ashton, Atkinson, Blackburne, Bliss, Bradshaw, Brodie - Browne, Brough, Burns, Byrom, Carr, Carragher, Linda Cluskey, Dodd, Dowd, Doyle, Dutton, Friel, Grace, Hardy, Jones, Keith, John Kelly, John Joseph Kelly, Killen, Lappin, Daniel Lewis, Maher, Marshall, McCann, McGinnity, McKinley, Moncur, Morris, Murphy, Brenda O'Brien, Michael O'Brien, Page, Pitt, Pugh, Roche, John Sayers, Yvonne Sayers, Shaw, Spencer, Anne Thompson, Lynne Thompson, Tweed, Sir Ron Watson, Webster, Bill Welsh and Marianne Welsh

**49. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Booth, Cummins, Dawson, Fairclough, Gannon, Hands, Jamieson, Dan T. Lewis, O'Hanlon, Pullin, Roscoe, Thomas and Veidman.

**50. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

In accordance with Paragraph 9 of the Council's Code of Conduct, the following declaration of personal interest was made and the Member concerned remained in the room during the consideration of the item:

Member	Minute	Nature of Interest
Councillor Lappin	Minute No. 62 – Motion submitted by Councillor Brodie-Browne	Member of the Merseyside Pensions Fund Committee

**51. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20 September 2018 be approved as a correct record.

**52. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

Remembrance Sunday

The Mayor extended his thanks and appreciation to all of the Members of the Council, Officers, Royal British Legion, Ex Service Organisations and members of the public who attended the various Remembrance Sunday events held throughout the Borough, which were all extremely well attended.

Bootle – 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The Mayor also thanked the Members of the Council, Officers and members of the public who attended the exhibition and events which took place from Friday 19 October to Saturday 27 October 2018 at Bootle Town Hall to celebrate 150 years of Bootle.

Death of Former Councillor Brian Reynolds

The Mayor reported with sadness and regret on the death of former Councillor Brian Reynolds who died on 12 April 2018 aged 69 years.

Brian Reynolds served the Molyneux Ward from 3 May 1990 until 7 May 1998. During his time on the Council, Brian Reynolds was Deputy Leader of the Council and served as the Chair of the Education Committee and as a Member on the Highways, Leisure Services, Libraries and Arts and Policy and Resources Committees.

The Mayor extended the thoughts of the Council to the family and friends of Brian Reynolds.

The Council stood for one minute silence as a mark of respect.

Councillors Moncur, Brennan, Sir Ron Watson and Pugh paid tribute to Brian Reynolds.

**53. MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC**

The Mayor reported that a public petition had been received containing the signatures of over 500 people and that the summary of the petition stated:

"We want Sefton Council to support a motion for a People's Vote on the final Brexit Deal which includes an option to remain in the EU. We also want the Council to request receipt of all government departmental information and analysis pertaining to the impacts upon Sefton's communities and businesses of the UK's withdrawal from the European Union, including any information deemed by the government to be confidential, which is their legal right."

In accordance with Paragraph 266 in Chapter 11 of the Constitution, the lead petitioner, Carla Burns was given a period of up to five minutes to address the Council on the petition.

Thereafter, it was moved by Councillor Maher and seconded by Councillor Hardy that:

"The petition be noted."

An **amendment** was moved by Councillor Daniel Lewis and seconded by Councillor Brodie-Browne that the Motion be amended by the addition of the following text:

"and this Council supports the terms of the petition submitted and in particular calls for a People's Vote on the final Brexit Deal which includes an option to remain in the EU."

Following debate and in accordance with Paragraph 94 of Chapter 4 in the Council Constitution, the voting on the amendment was recorded and the Members of the Council present at the time, voted as follows:

**FOR THE AMENDMENT:**

Councillors Ashton, Brodie-Browne, Dodd, Keith, Daniel Lewis, Pugh, Shaw and Lynne Thompson.

**AGAINST THE AMENDMENT:**

Councillors Atkinson, Blackburne, Bliss, Bradshaw, Brennan, Brough, Burns, Byrom, Carr, Carragher, Cluskey, Dowd, Doyle, Dutton, Friel, Grace, Hardy, Jones, John Kelly, John Joseph Kelly, Killen, Lappin, Maher, Marshall, McCann, McGinnity, McKinley, Moncur, Morris, Murphy, Brenda O'Brien, Michael O'Brien, Page, Pitt, Roche, John Sayers, Yvonne Sayers, Spencer, Anne Thompson, Tweed, Webster, Bill Welsh, Marianne Welsh and The Mayor.

**ABSTENTION:**

Councillor Sir Ron Watson.

The Mayor declared that the amendment was lost by 44 votes to 8 with 1 abstention.

Thereafter, on a show of hands the Mayor declared that the Motion was carried and it was

RESOLVED:

That the petition be noted.

#### **54. QUESTIONS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

The Council considered a schedule setting out the written questions submitted by:

1. Question submitted by Councillor Jones to the to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher);
2. Question submitted by Councillor Jones to the Cabinet Member for Planning and Building Control) (Councillor Veidman);
3. Question submitted by Councillor Brough to the Cabinet Member for Communities and Housing (Councillor Hardy);
4. Question submitted by Councillor Bliss to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher);
- 5-7. 3 Questions submitted by Councillor Sir Ron Watson to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher);
8. Question submitted by Councillor Sir Ron Watson to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Skills (Councillor Atkinson);
9. Question submitted by Councillor Bliss to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher);
10. Question submitted by Councillor Doyle to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher);
11. Question submitted by Councillor Pugh to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher);
12. Question submitted by Councillor Bliss to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher);

together with the responses given. Supplementary questions to questions 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 11 were responded to by the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members for Communities and Housing and, Regeneration and Skills.

**55. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972: ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS – COUNCILLOR RICHARD HANDS**

The Council considered the report of the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer which requested the Council to approve and authorise the absence of Councillor Richard Hands from attendance at Council and Committee Meetings pursuant to Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972.

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Hardy and

RESOLVED: That:

- (1) the current absence from all Council and Committee Meetings of Councillor Richard Hands due to ill-health be authorised and approved for a six-month period until the scheduled meeting of the Council to take place on 25 April 2019, pursuant to Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- (2) the Mayor be requested to write to Councillor Richard Hands, on behalf of the Council, wishing him a speedy recovery and a quick return to Council meetings.

**56. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES 2018/19**

Councillor Bliss proposed that Councillor Jones should replace Councillor Dutton as the Substitute Member for Councillor Jamieson on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services).

RESOLVED:

That the change to the substitute representation on the Committee be approved.

**57. MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BILL WELSH - NORTHERN RAIL**

It was moved by Councillor Bill Welsh and seconded by Councillor Friel:

**“Northern Rail**

On 21 April 2016, a Motion was agreed at Council deploring Northern Rail's proposal to remove the Southport to Manchester Piccadilly service which is used by many commuters and requesting them to retain it in full.

The Motion also pressed for improvements to the rail service between Southport and Manchester by bringing forward the electrification of the line in order to provide a faster service as it was commonly acknowledged that the service was already very poor.

In the intervening period due to the efforts of local rail campaign groups, local MPs, Merseytravel, the Liverpool City Region (LCR) Combined Authority as well as the leader of Sefton Council and the Council's representative on the LCR Transport Committee, Northern Rail has retained a very limited service into Piccadilly. All parties involved in the campaign are continuing to press for a better service overall.

The debacle following the timetable changes in May which led to hundreds of train services being cancelled as well as unacceptable delays and overcrowding with those that were not cancelled has put Northern Rail under a national spotlight. Passengers' experience of the Southport-Manchester service which was previously very poor has now become considerably worse since Arriva took over the Northern franchise over two years ago.

The company has itself conceded that service performance even now is still well below acceptable on all lines covered by the franchise.

Recently the East Coast mainline was brought into public sector control following the failure of that franchise. Given the disaster following the introduction of the new timetable and the subsequent failure of Northern Rail to improve its services sufficiently this Council now believes that the company should also be stripped of its franchise and the service brought into public sector control and calls on the Government to take this action.

This Council requests that the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive formally write on behalf of the Council to the Minister for Transport highlighting the above and calling on the Minister to, as a matter of urgency, remove the franchise from Northern Rail and bring it into public sector control.”

An **amendment** was moved by Councillor Pugh and seconded by Councillor Shaw that the Motion be amended by the addition of the following text at the end of the final paragraph in the Motion:

“and further write to the Manchester and Liverpool City Region Transport Portfolio holders urging them to support in any new franchise agreement for the restoration of Southport’s direct rail links with South Manchester and Manchester Airport.”

Following debate, on a show of hands, the Mayor declared that the amendment was carried by 46 votes to 6.

Thereafter, on a show of hands, the Mayor declared that the Substantive Motion was carried by 46 votes to 6 and it was

RESOLVED:

### **Northern Rail**

On 21 April 2016, a Motion was agreed at Council deploring Northern Rail's proposal to remove the Southport to Manchester Piccadilly service which is used by many commuters and requesting them to retain it in full.

The Motion also pressed for improvements to the rail service between Southport and Manchester by bringing forward the electrification of the line in order to provide a faster service as it was commonly acknowledged that the service was already very poor.

In the intervening period due to the efforts of local rail campaign groups, local MPs, Merseytravel, the Liverpool City Region (LCR) Combined Authority as well as the leader of Sefton Council and the Council's representative on the LCR Transport Committee, Northern Rail has retained a very limited service into Piccadilly. All parties involved in the campaign are continuing to press for a better service overall.

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The company has itself conceded that service performance even now is still well below acceptable on all lines covered by the franchise.

Recently the East Coast mainline was brought into public sector control following the failure of that franchise. Given the disaster following the introduction of the new timetable and the subsequent failure of Northern Rail to improve its services sufficiently this Council now believes that the company should also be stripped of its franchise and the service brought into public sector control and calls on the Government to take this action.

This Council requests that the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive formally write on behalf of the Council to the Minister for Transport highlighting the above and calling on the Minister to, as a matter of urgency, remove the franchise from Northern Rail and bring it into public sector control and, further write to the Manchester and Liverpool City Region Transport Portfolio holders urging them to support in any new franchise agreement for the restoration of Southport's direct rail links with South Manchester and Manchester Airport.

**58. MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR SIR RON WATSON - SOCIAL HOUSING**

It was moved by Councillor Sir Ron Watson and seconded by Councillor Morris:

**Social Housing**

Sefton Council welcomes the Government's decision to remove the cap on the construction of new social housing.

The Council could quickly identify suitable sites based on assessments already completed. There remains however one issue to be resolved.

The new freedoms apply only to Local Authorities that have retained Housing Revenue Accounts (HRA) and Sefton like the majority wound up their HRA's when housing stock transfer took place in 2006.

The Council therefore request the Government to clarify the mechanism by which the new freedoms can be implemented and whether or not the Council would need to open a new HRA Account. In addition, the Council requests clarification of the arrangements made for debt transfer at the time.

When the Council is able to move forward it confirms that to ensure social cohesion early implementation and cost viability, it will invite tenders from private sector house builders who will be able to use their private sector standard house designs with the result in savings that Sefton knows will occur from this approach based on its previous experience in Southport.

An **amendment** was moved by Councillor Hardy and seconded by Councillor Atkinson that the Motion be amended as follows:

(1) First Paragraph: delete the word "welcomes" and add the word "notes"

(2) Second Paragraph: delete the text:

"could quickly identify suitable sites based on assessments already completed. There remains however one issue to be resolved"

and add the text:

"notes the progress of the wholly owned Council housing development company by Sefton MBC - 'Sandway Homes'. It welcomes its intention to build housing for sale and to meet all council policies on the provision of high quality, affordable homes in Sefton. In addition, the council recognises the work already undertaken in relation to the identification of suitable housing sites."

(3) Third Paragraph: add the following text at the end of the paragraph:

"At the time of stock transfer the debt on Sefton Council's HRA was circa £86 million."



- (4) Fourth Paragraph: delete all of the text after word “therefore” and add the following text:

“requests that the Government clarifies the implications of re-opening a HRA account and the potential risk of reigniting a substantial financial debt at a time of continued budgetary reductions due to the Conservative Government’s austerity agenda.”

- (5) Fifth Paragraph: delete all of the text in the paragraph and add the following text:

“This Council recognises the important role private developers contribute to house building. However, for sites owned by Sefton MBC we believe the ‘developers’ profit should be a social value based income to Sefton MBC and recycled for the wider benefits of Sefton services and communities.”

On a show of hands, the Mayor declared that the Motion was carried by 46 votes to 6.

Thereafter, on a show of hands, the Mayor declared that the vote on the Substantive Motion was carried by 46 votes to none and it was

RESOLVED:

### **Social Housing**

Sefton Council notes the Government’s decision to remove the cap on the construction of new social housing.

The Council notes the progress of the wholly owned Council housing development company by Sefton MBC - ‘Sandway Homes’. It welcomes its intention to build housing for sale and to meet all council policies on the provision of high quality, affordable homes in Sefton. In addition, the council recognises the work already undertaken in relation to the identification of suitable housing sites.

The new freedoms apply only to Local Authorities that have retained Housing Revenue Accounts (HRA) and Sefton like the majority wound up their HRA’s when housing stock transfer took place in 2006. At the time of stock transfer the debt on Sefton Council’s HRA was circa £86 million.

The Council therefore requests that the Government clarifies the implications of re-opening a HRA account and the potential risk of reigniting a substantial financial debt at a time of continued budgetary reductions due to the Conservative Government’s austerity agenda.

This Council recognises the important role private developers contribute to house building. However, for sites owned by Sefton MBC we believe the ‘developers’ profit should be a social value based income to Sefton MBC and recycled for the wider benefits of Sefton services and communities.

**59. MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR MAHER - BREAKING POINT CAMPAIGN**

It was moved by Councillor Maher and seconded by Councillor Hardy:

**“Breaking Point Campaign**

This Council notes that many council budgets are now at Breaking Point. Austerity has caused huge damage to communities up and down the UK, with devastating effects on key public services that protect the most defenceless in society - children at risk, disabled adults and vulnerable older people - and the services we all rely on, like clean streets, libraries, and children’s centres;

- Tory cuts mean councils have lost 60p out of every £1 that the last Labour Government was spending on local government in 2010;
- Councils had to spend an extra £800m last year to meet the demand on vital services to protect children;
- With an ageing population and growing demand adult social care faces a gap of £3.5 billion - with only 14% of council workers now confident that vulnerable local residents are safe and cared for;
- Government cuts have seen over 500 children’s centres and 475 libraries close, potholes are left unfilled, and 80% of council’s workers now say they have no confidence in the future of local services;
- Northamptonshire has already gone bust due to Tory incompetence at both national and local level, and more councils are predicted to collapse without immediate emergency funding; and
- Councils now face a further funding gap of £7.8 billion by 2025 just to keep services ‘standing still’ and meeting additional demand. Even Lord Gary Porter, the Conservative Chair of the Local Government Association, has said ‘Councils can no longer be expected to run our vital local services on a shoestring’.

This Council condemns the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Liz Truss for stating on BBC Newsnight on 1 October 2018 that the Government is “not making cuts to local authorities”, when all independent assessments of government spending show that this is entirely false; and that this Council further notes that Prime Minister Theresa May has also claimed that “austerity is over” despite planning a further £1.3bn of cuts to council budgets over the next year;

This Council agrees with the aims of the ‘Breaking Point’ petition signed by Labour Councillors across the country, in calling for the Prime Minister and Chancellor to truly end austerity in local government by:

- Using the Budget to reverse next year’s planned £1.3bn cut to council budgets;
- Immediately investing £2bn in children’s services and £2bn in adult social care to stop these vital emergency services from collapsing;

- Pledging to use the Spending Review to restore council funding to 2010 levels over the next four years

This Council resolves to:

- Support the 'Breaking Point' campaign, recognising the devastating impact that austerity has had on our local community
- Ask the Leader of the Council to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Prime Minister, and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government setting out the funding pressures faced by our local council, and calling on the Government to truly end austerity in local government."

Following debate, on a show of hands, the Mayor declared that the Motion was carried by 44 votes to 5 and it was

RESOLVED:

### **Breaking Point Campaign**

This Council notes that many council budgets are now at Breaking Point. Austerity has caused huge damage to communities up and down the UK, with devastating effects on key public services that protect the most defenceless in society - children at risk, disabled adults and vulnerable older people - and the services we all rely on, like clean streets, libraries, and children's centres;

- Tory cuts mean councils have lost 60p out of every £1 that the last Labour Government was spending on local government in 2010;
- Councils had to spend an extra £800m last year to meet the demand on vital services to protect children;
- With an ageing population and growing demand adult social care faces a gap of £3.5 billion - with only 14% of council workers now confident that vulnerable local residents are safe and cared for;
- Government cuts have seen over 500 children's centres and 475 libraries close, potholes are left unfilled, and 80% of council's workers now say they have no confidence in the future of local services;
- Northamptonshire has already gone bust due to Tory incompetence at both national and local level, and more councils are predicted to collapse without immediate emergency funding; and
- Councils now face a further funding gap of £7.8 billion by 2025 just to keep services 'standing still' and meeting additional demand. Even Lord Gary Porter, the Conservative Chair of the Local Government Association, has said 'Councils can no longer be expected to run our vital local services on a shoestring'.

This Council condemns the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Liz Truss for stating on BBC Newsnight on 1 October 2018 that the Government is "not making cuts to local authorities", when all independent assessments of government spending show that this is entirely false; and that this Council

further notes that Prime Minister Theresa May has also claimed that “austerity is over” despite planning a further £1.3bn of cuts to council budgets over the next year;

This Council agrees with the aims of the ‘Breaking Point’ petition signed by Labour Councillors across the country, in calling for the Prime Minister and Chancellor to truly end austerity in local government by:

- Using the Budget to reverse next year’s planned £1.3bn cut to council budgets;
- Immediately investing £2bn in children’s services and £2bn in adult social care to stop these vital emergency services from collapsing;
- Pledging to use the Spending Review to restore council funding to 2010 levels over the next four years

This Council resolves to:

- Support the ‘Breaking Point’ campaign, recognising the devastating impact that austerity has had on our local community
- Ask the Leader of the Council to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Prime Minister, and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government setting out the funding pressures faced by our local council, and calling on the Government to truly end austerity in local government.

#### **60. MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR JOHN SAYERS - FOOD ALLERGEN LABELLING**

It was moved by Councillor John Sayers, seconded by Councillor Yvonne Sayers and following debate, unanimously

RESOLVED:

#### **Food Allergen Labelling**

At present when a food business sells prepacked food for direct sale the same regulations apply as to non-prepacked food under the EU Food Information for Consumers Regulation No. 1169/2011. This means food businesses preparing their products freshly on their premises are exempted from the obligation of labelling them with a list of ingredients including the provision of allergen information.

This is because it is expected that the customer is able to speak with the person who made or packed the product to ask about ingredients. All mandatory allergen ingredients information (the 14) should be available and easily accessible for the consumer and this can be communicated through a variety of means to suit the business format of the food business operator.

The coroner who presided over the Inquest of Natasha Ednan-Laperouse concluded that the current legislation is not adequate and has requested a review. This Council welcomes a government review and would support a strengthening of the regulation(s) to ensure food allergic consumers are well informed regarding the allergen information of food purchased from food businesses preparing their products freshly on their premises. We hope the review will cover all food businesses that sell food that has been prepared and packed on the same premises from which they are being sold, irrespective of the size of the business.

Accordingly, this Council requests the Chief Executive to write to Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs requesting the introduction of legislation without delay to ensure all food products destined for human consumption are:

- (1) Clearly labelled with all Allergen contents;
- (2) That labelling should apply to all outlets regardless of size, hours of operation or whether payment is required or not;
- (3) That the vague terminology such as “may contain traces” is banned;
- (4) That the provisions of the Equalities Act 2010 are amended to ensure restaurants, cafes and other places of public refreshment be required to allow customers who suffer allergies to bring and consume their own food on the premises provided they are accompanied by other full paying customers and perhaps subject to a reasonable service charge; and
- (5) That all staff are trained in the effects of severe allergy and how to respond to customers needs.

**61. MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR MONCUR - PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING**

It was moved by Councillor Moncur and seconded by Councillor John Joseph Kelly and unanimously

RESOLVED:

**Public Health Funding**

The public health grant funds vital services and functions that prevent ill health and contribute to the future sustainability of the NHS. Local authorities are responsible for delivering most of these services, but their ability to do so is compromised by public health grant reductions and the broader funding climate.

In 2018/19 and 2019/20 every local authority will have less to spend on public health than the year before. Taking funds away from prevention is a

false economy. Without proper investment in public health people suffer, demand on local health services increases and the economy suffers. Poor public health costs local businesses heavily through sick days and lost productivity. Unless we restore public health funding, our health and care system will remain locked in a 'treatment' approach, which is neither economically viable nor protects the health of residents.

The Government is looking to phase out the Public Health Grant by 2020/21. Thereafter, they plan to fund public health via 75% business rates retention. Whatever the model, it is vital that local authorities have enough funding to deliver the functions and services they need to provide. Deprived areas often suffer the worst health outcomes, so it is also vital that areas with the greatest need receive sufficient funding to meet their local challenges.

This Council notes that around four in ten cancers are preventable, largely through avoidable risk factors, such as stopping smoking, keeping a healthy weight and cutting back on alcohol. Smoking accounts for 80,000 early deaths every year and remains the largest preventable cause of cancer in the world. Smoking-related ill health costs local authorities £760 million every year in social care costs. Additionally, obesity and alcohol account for 30,000 and 7,000 early deaths each year respectively. All three increase the risk of: cancer, diabetes, lung and heart conditions, poor mental health and create a subsequent burden on health and social care.

This Council believes that the impact of cuts to public health on our communities is becoming difficult to ignore. This case becomes more pressing given the Government's consideration of a 10-year plan for the NHS. For this reason, we support Cancer Research UK's call for increased and sustainable public health funding. This Council calls on the Government to deliver increased investment in public health and to support a sustainable health and social care system by taking a 'prevention first' approach.

In turn, Sefton Council will continue to support and fund public health initiatives to the best of our abilities - to prevent ill-health, reduce inequalities and support a health and social care system that is fit for the future.

**62. MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BRODIE-BROWNE -  
MERSEYSIDE PENSION FUND**

It was moved by Councillor Brodie-Browne and seconded by Councillor Daniel Lewis:

**Merseyside Pension Fund**

This Council notes:

- (i) the action of the Merseyside Pension Fund (MPF) in regard to investment in Fracking Companies; and
- (ii) the publication by Friends of the Earth (September 2018) Disinvest Fracking which identifies MPF as one of the top ten highest investors in Fracking Companies

This Council resolves to request MPF to review its policy and to publish a timetable for disinvestment.

(Link to Friends of the Earth document referred to above:

[https://gofossilfree.org/uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2018/09/03\\_09\\_18\\_FINAL-VERSION-divest-fracking-report-.pdf](https://gofossilfree.org/uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2018/09/03_09_18_FINAL-VERSION-divest-fracking-report-.pdf) )

An **amendment** was moved by Councillor Lappin, seconded by Councillor Hardy that the Motion be amended as follows:

- (1) In Part (ii) of the Motion, delete the following text:

“The publication by Friends of the Earth (September 2018) Disinvest Fracking which identifies MPF as one of the top ten highest investors in Fracking Companies.”

And substitute the following text:

“Its long-term commitment to the Paris Agreement and its objective to disinvest from all fossil fuel portfolios to become carbon neutral in the near future.”

- (2) In the final paragraph, delete the following text:

review its policy and to publish a timetable for disinvestment

And substitute the following text:

“publish a timetable for disinvestment as soon as possible.”

In accordance with Paragraph 71 in Chapter 4 of the Constitution, Councillor Lappin offered her amendment as a “friendly amendment” and Councillor Brodie-Browne, indicated that he accepted the amendment as a ‘friendly amendment’ to his Motion.

On a show of Hands, the Mayor declared that the Revised Motion was carried unanimously and it was

**RESOLVED:**

### **Merseyside Pension Fund**

This Council notes:

- (i) the action of the Merseyside Pension Fund (MPF) in regard to disinvestment in Fracking Companies.
- (ii) Its long-term commitment to the Paris Agreement and its objective to disinvest from all fossil fuel portfolios to become carbon neutral in the near future.

This Council resolves to request MPF to publish a timetable for disinvestment as soon as possible.

**63. MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BYROM -  
MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

It was moved by Councillor Byrom and seconded by Councillor Grace:

**Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority**

“This Council believes that the cuts imposed by Government on Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority (MFRA) have gone too far and should be reversed to ensure public safety is protected.

To this end the Council will work in collaboration with MFRA, Merseyside’s constituent District Councils, Mayors Anderson and Rotherham, MP’s, the FBU and all trade unions to jointly lobby Government to demand assurances that, the cuts imposed on the Authority be reversed and that the case for increased funding for MFRA will be fully considered on the basis of public safety.

This Council also supports the Fire and Rescue Authority’s position when demanding assurances that, as an absolute minimum, Government commit to ensuring that there will be no further grant reductions applied to MFRA and that the Authority will be fully protected in relation to any new financial burdens.”

An **amendment** was moved by Councillor Sir Ron Watson, seconded by Councillor Bliss that the Motion be amended by the deletion of the following text in the second paragraph of the Motion:

“the cuts imposed on the Authority be reversed and that”

On a show of hands, the Mayor declared that the amendment was lost by 42 votes to 4.

Thereafter, on a show of hands, the Mayor declared that the Motion was carried and it was



RESOLVED:

**Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority**

This Council believes that the cuts imposed by Government on Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority (MFRA) have gone too far and should be reversed to ensure public safety is protected.

To this end the Council will work in collaboration with MFRA, Merseyside's constituent District Councils, Mayors Anderson and Rotherham, MP's, the FBU and all trade unions to jointly lobby Government to demand assurances that, the cuts imposed on the Authority be reversed and that the case for increased funding for MFRA will be fully considered on the basis of public safety.

This Council also supports the Fire and Rescue Authority's position when demanding assurances that, as an absolute minimum, Government commit to ensuring that there will be no further grant reductions applied to MFRA and that the Authority will be fully protected in relation to any new financial burdens.