

Agenda Council

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, to be held on Tuesday, 31 January 2023 at 6.00 pm for the purpose of transacting the following business:-

The Mayor of Sandwell, Councillor Richard Jones

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|----------|---|----------------|
| 1 | Apologies for Absence | 9 - 10 |
| | To receive apologies for absence (if any). | |
| 2 | Declarations of Interest | 11 - 12 |
| | Members to declare any interests in matters to be discussed at the meeting. | |
| 3 | Minutes | 13 - 30 |
| | To confirm as a correct record, the minutes of the extraordinary and ordinary meetings of Council held on 13 December 2022. | |
| 4 | Urgent Business | 31 - 32 |
| | To consider any urgent business (with prior approval by the Mayor). | |
| 5 | Mayor's Announcements | 33 - 34 |
| | To receive announcements from the Mayor. | |



6 **Petitions** 35 - 36

To receive petitions under Standing Order No. 8.

7 **Written Questions** 37 - 38

To consider written questions under Standing Order No. 9 to:-

- (a) the Mayor;
- (b) the Leader of the Council;
- (c) any other member of the Cabinet;
- (d) any person appointed to preside at a committee, sub-committee or panel;
- (e) the members of the Council nominated pursuant to Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1985, on the discharge of the functions of the following Joint Authorities:-
 - (i) West Midlands Combined Authority (the Leader);
 - (ii) West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority (Councillor Jalil);
 - (iii) Transport for the West Midlands (Councillor Webb);
- (f) a nominated member appointed by the Council to the Board of Sandwell Leisure Trust;
- (g) a member of the Council who is, as a result of action taken by or on behalf of the Council, a member or director of any company.

8 **Sandwell Children's Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report 2021/2022** 39 - 88

To receive the annual report of the Sandwell

Children's Safeguarding Partnership.

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|----|---|-----------|
| 9 | Council Tax Base 2023/24 | 89 - 92 |
| | To approve the Council Tax Base for 2023/24. | |
| 10 | Treasury Management Mid-Year Review 2022/23 | 93 - 118 |
| | To approve the Treasury Management Mid-Year Review 2022/23 and revised Minimum Revenue Provision Policy. | |
| 11 | Proposed departure from the Development Plan at Brook Road, Oldbury | 119 - 124 |
| | To consider a departure from the Local Development Plan. | |
| 12 | Proposed departure from the Development Plan at London Street, Smethwick | 125 - 130 |
| | To consider a departure from the Local Development Plan. | |
| 13 | Revisions to Appointments to Committees and Boards | 131 - 134 |
| | To approve any revisions to the appointments to Committees, Boards and other bodies. | |
| 14 | To receive the minutes of Cabinet | 135 - 168 |
| | To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 7 and 21 December 2022. | |
| 15 | To receive the minutes of the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board | 169 - 182 |
| | To receive the minutes of the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board held on 6 December 2022 and 12 January 2023. | |
| 16 | To receive the minutes of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee | 183 - 192 |

To receive the minutes of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee held on 15 November 2022.

17 **Notice of Motions**

To consider the following motions received under Standing Order No. 12:-

17.1 Motion against the Governments anti-strike legislation

Proposer: Councillor Piper

Seconder: Councillor Smith

This council expresses concern about the government's anti-strike, anti-trade union legislation aimed at forcing people to go to work against their will after they have organised and democratically voted for legitimate industrial action. Many people who live in Sandwell actually work in Sandwell and have joined unions across a range of professions that are potentially impacted by the governments proposed legislation changes. These professions work across Health, Fire and Rescue, transport and education sectors. Our residents in these professions voted to have their voice heard, on such matters as pay, working conditions, safe working practices and fire and rehire.

The government's proposed law would give a Secretary of State the power to define "minimum service levels" in certain sectors such as those in health, fire and rescue, education and transport where Sandwell people work. This would mean that Sandwell workers would be required to maintain that level during a strike or forfeit employment rights, including legal protection against unfair dismissal leaving them insecure in their job, and fearing the consequence of any action taken. Workers should have a freedom of choice and yet this right will be

restricted in this legislation.

The government should ensure proper negotiation and not put Sandwell workers at risk of losing their right of collective bargaining in the workplace.

Sandwell Council resolves:

- To carry on listening and to keep an open dialogue with all unions to continue to understand the issues that Sandwell workers face
- And requests that the leader writes to all of the Sandwell MP's and request that they listen to the right honourable John Spellar who has recently expressed concern about the Governments actions and ask that they all lobby government to work with all unions and not against them.

17.2 To Preserve and Protect the Thimblemill Baths Building

Proposer: Councillor Kalari

Seconded: Councillor Anandou

“That Council requests the Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism to consider preserving and protecting the Thimblemill Baths building by

- (i) not allowing the building to go into disrepair after the resources are moved to the new aquatics centre;
- (ii) (ii) securing funding for renovations as needed and put the facility into community use.”

17.3 More Funding for Road Safety Measures

Proposer: Councillor Anandou

Seconded: Councillor Kalari

“The Council takes road safety seriously and supports the importance of road safety measures to protect road users and pedestrians. Council therefore requests that the Cabinet Member for Environment Services reviews:

- (i) the adequacy of road safety/traffic calming measures particularly at accident spots across the Borough, such as Oldbury Town, Wolverhampton Road/ Queensway Junction, the Perryhill Road/ Castle Road junction and Castle Road/Hadzor road junction; and
- (ii) how funding is prioritised/allocated within Highways team to enable these measures to be implemented more quickly.”

18 **Decisions of the Ethical Standards Sub Committee**

To receive the decision of the Ethical Standards Sub Committee held on 16 December 2022:-

“That Cllr Melia makes an apology at the next full meeting of the Council and also sends a written apology to the complainant in a form agreed with the Chair of the Sub Committee, within 28 days”;



Kim Bromley-Derry CBE DL
Managing Director Commissioner
Sandwell Council House
Freeth Street
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Distribution

All Members of the Council

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