



# Walsall Council

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council of the Metropolitan Borough of Walsall to be held on **MONDAY the 13TH day of NOVEMBER, 2017 at 6.00 p.m.** at the Council House, Walsall.

Dated this 3rd day of November, 2017.

Yours sincerely,

Chief Executive.

The business to be transacted is as follows:

1. To elect a person to preside if the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are not present.
2. Apologies.
3. To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 18th September 2017.
4. Declarations of interest.
5. **Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended):**  
To agree that the public be excluded from the private session during consideration of the agenda items indicated for the reasons shown on the agenda.
6. Mayor's announcements.
7. To receive any petitions.

8. To answer any questions in accordance with Council procedure rules:

- (a) From the public: None
- (b) From members of the Council: None

9. **West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority governance review.** Report to Cabinet reproduced in the reports booklet for this meeting.

(Note: Recommendation of Cabinet will be circulated around the Council Chamber prior to the meeting.)

10. **Cohesion and Integration Strategy 2017-2020.** Report reproduced in the reports booklet for this meeting.

11. **Portfolio holder briefings.** To receive 5 minute presentations from the following portfolio holders:

- Clean and green
- Health

(Note: A member of the Council may ask the portfolio holder any question and another associate question without notice upon each report. Questioning by members is limited to 10 minutes for each report presented.)

12. To consider the following motion, notice of which has been duly given by **Councillors Robertson, Craddock and Barker:**

Council notes that the National Association of Teachers of Religious Education (NATRE) analysis reveals that the results of a survey shows that 25% of all secondary schools failed to provide a weekly Religious Education (RE) lesson. This percentage rose to 34% for 11 to 13 year olds and 44 % of 14 to 16 year old in academies and free schools. This survey took evidence from over 790 secondary schools.

Council acknowledges the high importance of RE in promoting a cohesive society. A Cohesion and Integration Strategy is being developed here in Walsall, that will, amongst other objectives, equip pupils with the vital knowledge about different faiths and beliefs in community, public and world affairs and so resolves to:

- (1) support the actions of Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) here in Walsall in researching the level of RE provision particularly KS4, in Walsall secondary schools.

- (2) join with Walsall SACRE to write to the Secretary of State for education to urge that Central Government will instruct OFSTED to also check on curriculum provision to ensure that schools comply to provide a legal amount of RE.
- (3) write to all secondary schools here in Walsall to remind them of their legal obligation to provide RE under the 1998 school standards and framework act.

(Note: Report to follow.)

**Private session**

**13. Amendment to the Capital Programme 2017/18 - Aldridge Manor House.**  
Report reproduced in the reports booklet for this meeting.

[Exempt information under paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended)]