



# 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 14TH day of NOVEMBER, 2016 at 6.00 p.m.** at the Council House, Walsall.

Dated this 4th day of November, 2016.

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 19th September 2016.
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. To confirm the following recommendation of the **Brownhills/Pelsall/Rushall/Sheffield Area Panel** from its meeting on 17th October 2016:

**Co-opted member**

That Mr. Barry Poxon be appointed a co-opted member of the Brownhills/Pelsall/Rushall/Sheffield Area Panel for the remainder of the 2016/17 municipal year.

10. **National Scheme for Auditor appointments.** Report reproduced in the reports booklet for this meeting.

11. **Portfolio holder briefings.** To receive a 5 minute presentation 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. **Membership of Personnel Committee.** To note that the Labour Group have appointed Councillor Jeavons as a member of the Committee for the remainder of the current municipal year.

13. **Appointments to outside bodies and charities:**

- (a) **Birmingham Airport Consultative Committee:** To report the resignation of Councillor Bird as a member of the Committee. To appoint a representative for the balance of the current municipal year.

(Note: Councillor Worrall is currently the named substitute member to the Consultative Committee.)

- (b) **Sheffield Playing Fields Charity:** The term of office of Councillors Clews and Rattigan expires on 18th December 2016. To appoint two trustees for a period of 4 years expiring on 18th December 2020.

14. To consider the following motion, notice of which has been duly given by **Councillors Robertson, Jeavons, J. Fitzpatrick, D. Coughlan and Burley:**

“This Council notes that:

- Pharmacies in Walsall offer a range of services such as dispensing prescriptions, disposal of unwanted medicines and supporting self-care
- Pharmacies play an important role in promoting wellbeing such as healthy eating, smoking cessation, exercise, flu vaccination, sexual health and more
- Pharmacies provide advice and support services which are also available to care homes
- several local pharmacies are wanting to achieve Healthy Living Pharmacy status recognising and evidencing their role in wishing to improve the health of their local population.

Walsall Council is greatly concerned about the threat to local pharmacy services as a result of Government cuts in the budget of £170m nationally, which take effect from October 2016. This is a 6% cut in cash terms but could effectively mean a cut of 12% during the financial year and which could lead to the potential closure of up to a quarter of pharmacies with an increased focus on warehousing dispensary and online services. This Council believes that these service cuts in pharmacies will put more residents at risk of poor health, as well as putting pressure on GPs and on hospital services and therefore increasing NHS costs. A fully funded community pharmacy service is cost effective and is in the interest of patients and carers.

Walsall Council agrees to write to the Secretary of State for Health, NHS England and Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group detailing our concerns and demanding an immediate reversal of these proposals.”

(Note: Report reproduced in the reports booklet for this meeting.)

15. To consider the following motion, notice of which has been duly given by **Councillors Shires and S. Coughlan:**

This Council notes with great concern:

- (1) That the current Government is considering bringing back grammar schools.

- (2) That the Government has confirmed that such reforms could include allowing Free Schools to introduce academic selection.
- (3) The revelation that the Government will first seek to expand grammar schools by the backdoor through exploiting loopholes in existing legislation.
- (4) That support is being encouraged for the premature selection and separation of young people according to a crudely measured academic ability.

Council believes:

- (a) In the potential of all our young people to develop themselves and to contribute to society and the economy.
- (b) That young people have varied and complex aptitudes and abilities and develop at different rates.
- (c) That young people should be treated as individuals who can learn to socialise and respect differences.

Council:

- (1) Confirms its opposition to the expansion of grammar schools.
- (2) Calls on the Government to abandon the selection by ability and social separation of young people into different schools.
- (3) Rejects any change to Free Schools to enable them to select on the basis of academic ability.
- (4) Calls on the Government to respect the spirit of existing legislation on grammar schools and not seek out loopholes within it to effectively create new grammar schools under the pretext of expansion.
- (5) Calls on the Government to do more to cater for all young people according to individual aptitudes and abilities.

(Note: Report to follow.)