

COUNCIL MEETING – 15TH JULY 2020

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper	WP3	6/7/20	7/7/20

Submitted by:	Councillor James Lewis
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Executive Member Resources
Relevant Director	Director of Resources and Housing

“This Council remembers all who lost their lives due to Coronavirus and expresses its deepest sympathies to all who have lost loved ones.

Council is eternally grateful to the health and social care workers, other key workers and volunteers in Leeds who continue to do such an incredible job. Council is proud of the response of the people of Leeds to the pandemic and believes their grit and determination will help drive the city’s economic recovery.

Council recognises the unprecedented impact on the council’s finances from additional expenditure and lost income related to Coronavirus. Council notes the promise from Government to do “whatever is necessary” to support councils in doing everything possible to respond to the virus. Council welcomes the commitments made so far by Government but recognises these fall far short of covering the additional costs and loss of income associated with our Coronavirus response.

Council supports the short term immediate measures to deliver savings that were reported to Executive Board in June, but notes this comes after a decade of austerity being imposed on the council and is deeply concerned further measures will be required which could involve huge cuts to services vital to the city’s social wellbeing and economic recovery, as well as possible job losses affecting the very workers who led the fight against coronavirus. Council notes all other local authorities are facing a financial challenge.

This Council, along with councils all over the country, is ready to step up to help the UK recover from this unprecedented global crisis. Council believes further financial support from government is needed to do this, plus the removal of red tape and giving more freedoms in the way councils operate financially. This would allow the council to do what we have already proved we can do in delivering improved public services and prosperity for the people of Leeds.

“Council resolves to continue working with organisations including Core Cities and the Local Government Association to make the case that all councils are desperately in need of extra funding and to lobby the Government for the resources we need.”

Deadlines for submission

White Papers	- 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
Questions	- 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
Amendments (including references back)	- 10.00 am on the day before the meeting

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)
