

JOINT ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LABOUR, INDEPENDENT AND LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUPS OF SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL

1. Preamble

1.1 Following the local elections held on 2 May 2019 no party or group achieved an overall majority on the Southend-on-Sea Borough Council (“the Council”).

1.2 The challenges facing Southend-on-Sea and the Council require the Council to have strong leadership and a stable political environment to ensure that we:

- provide the best possible services;
- promote fairness for all residents and reduce inequalities;
- provide opportunities for economic growth; and
- create a better Southend

1.3 The “Signatories” to this Agreement comprise the Labour, Independent and Liberal Democrat Groups on the Council and includes all those who have appended their signatures hereto.

1.4 This Agreement sets out broad agreement reached between the Signatories and will form the basis of the Joint Administration and will enable the Signatories to work together as a strong and stable local government administration for Southend-on-Sea Borough.

2. Terms of this Agreement

The Signatories agree as follows:

2.1 To form a Joint Administration with a Cabinet of 7 members as follows:

- Positions on the Cabinet shall be in the ratio of 3 Labour, 3 Independent, 1 Liberal Democrat Councillors.
- Notwithstanding that the statutory role of Leader of the Council will be taken by the Leader of the Labour Group, major decisions within the Joint Administration will be taken by the leaders of the Groups acting collaboratively.
- The Signatories respect each others’ commitment to the principles under which they respectively operate.
- The Signatories agree to support the Joint Administration on votes of confidence and votes to ensure that a balanced budget is passed.

2.2 To agree to work together on the basis of the principles of honesty, openness and transparency.

2.3 To promote strong working relationships with Council Officers based on mutual trust and respect.

2.4 To act in the best interests of the Borough of Southend-on-Sea and its residents reflecting their views and with the aim of creating a better Southend.

2.5 To review Southend 2050 in the light of the Joint Administration’s policy objectives for the Council and to progress schemes and initiatives in accordance with such review.

2.6 To continue to work within the broad financial framework of the Budget for 2019 / 2020 whilst reserving the right to make changes to reflect changed priorities

2.7 To work towards delivering the following specific commitments:

i. Housing:

- Provision of new social housing and key worker housing as a key priority.
- Measures to improve the private rented sector, including support for tenants, more rigorous enforcement and a report on the implementation of a selective licensing scheme to be tabled within a year

ii. Public Safety

- A two year programme of improving street lighting infill to deliver around 100 new lighting columns.
- Assess priority areas for additional CCTV provision.
- Continue to press for additional policing throughout the Borough.
- Press for additional neighbourhood policing throughout the Borough.

iii. Highways and Road Safety

- A programme of improvement for pavement and carriageway restoration.
- Introduction of 20mph zones in appropriate residential streets.

iv. Parking

- Reassess parking charges.
- Conduct a parking review for residents/business/visitor parking.
- Provide a multi storey car park at Tylers Avenue and a second multi storey car park on a suitable site in Leigh.

v. Public Transport

- Support public transport and seek to improve mobility and access for all residents.

iv. Environment

- Progress sea defences.
- Improve recycling and decrease the use of one use plastics and other environmentally damaging materials
- Improve street cleansing including preventative measures to deal with dog fouling.
- Protect water and beach quality.
- Improve biodiversity.
- Improve air quality.
- Promote effective and efficient energy saving and environmental measures.
- Promote renewable energy and the reduction of the dependence on fossil fuels

vii. Employment

- Promote ethical employment practices, pay the real living wage to directly employed staff and work towards full living wage accreditation
- Increase and promote apprenticeships throughout the Borough.

viii Social

Children

- Review and improve childrens' centres by increasing the range of services and greater community involvement
- Support local schools to attain and retain the highest Ofsted ratings

Health and Adult Social Care

- Provide Extra Care beds
- Promote the provision of Shoebury Health Centre and a health centre in the west of the Borough
- Support the local NHS to ensure the retention of Southend University Hospital and its services
- Take further concrete action to address health inequalities in the Borough

3 Constitutional Matters

It is agreed by the Signatories that

- (a) they will support all nominations submitted by the Joint Administration for appointments to Council bodies and outside bodies at the special Council,
- (b) they will support the Joint Administration in respect of its Budget proposals and on any confidence motion,
- (c) this Agreement shall constitute the whole agreement between the Signatories and will inform and be informed by the Council's strategic plans and objectives
- (d) this Agreement shall be reviewed on an annual basis

This Agreement has been signed by all individual members of the Signatories to confirm their agreement, this

30th

day of ~~June~~

MAY 2019

Signed on behalf of the Labour Group by:

Jennifer Beck



Margaret Borton



Laurie Burton



Daniel Cowan



Matthew Dent

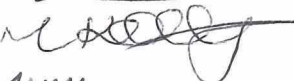


Stephen George

Ian Gilbert



Maggie Kelly



Ann Jones



Helen McDonald



Kay Mitchell



Cheryl Nevin



Kevin Robinson



Charles Willis

Signed on behalf of the Independent Group by:

Brian Ayling



Anne Chalk



~~XXXXXX~~

Trevor Harp



Ian Shead



Mike Stafford



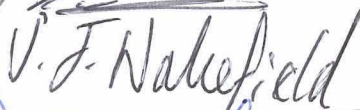
Martin Terry



Paul Van Looy



Steven Wakefield



Nick Ward



Ron Woodley



Signed on behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group by:

Paul Collins

Beth Hooper

Carole Mulroney

Ashley Thompson

Peter Wexham

J. M. Collins
Beth Hooper
Carole Mulroney
Ashley Thompson
Peter Wexham