

28 ORDER FOR PAPERS—LIVERPOOL CITY COUNCIL

Mr Rath moved, according to notice, private members' business item no. 1762: That, under standing order 52, there be laid upon the table of the House within 21 days of the date of passing of this resolution the following documents in the possession, custody or control of the Minister for Local Government or the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (including the Office of Local Government) relating to Liverpool City Council:

- (a) all correspondence, sent within the Office of Local Government between 27 March 2023 and 7 May 2024, relating to Liverpool City Council,
- (b) all documents relating to the Public Inquiry into Liverpool City Council,
- (c) all documents relating to the section 430 investigation, or the interim report of the section 430 investigation, into Liverpool City Council,
- (d) all documents relating to Holding Redlich being appointed as counsel assisting the Commissioner for the Public Inquiry into Liverpool City Council,
- (e) all documents relating to Liverpool City Council sent from:
 - (i) the Minister for Local Government,
 - (ii) the Office of Local Government,
 - (iii) Ross Glover, and
- (f) any legal or other advice regarding the scope or validity of this order of the House created as a result of this order of the House.

Debate ensued.

Ms Moriarty moved: That the question be amended by:

- (1) Omitting "21 days of the date of passing of this resolution" and inserting instead "56 days of the date of the final report into the Liverpool City Council Public Inquiry".
- (2) In paragraph (a) omitting all words after "all correspondence, sent" and inserting instead "by the Office of Local Government between 1 November 2022 and 7 May 2024 to Liverpool City Council in relation to requests for information under section 430 or 734A of the Local Government Act,".
- (3) In paragraph (b) omitting all words after "all documents" and inserting instead "relating to the establishment of the Public Inquiry into Liverpool City Council, including the appointment of the Commissioner,".
- (4) In paragraph (c) inserting "provided by the Office of Local Government to the Public Inquiry" after "all documents".
- (5) In paragraph (d) omitting "Holding Redlich being appointed as counsel" and inserting instead "the appointment of the external instructing solicitors and counsel".
- (6) Omitting paragraph (e).
- (7) Inserting at the end:
 - "(2) That:

- (a) this order of the House does not require the production of documents relating to witness testimony, including supporting documents, public interest disclosures, interview transcripts or investigation notes, and
- (b) documents returned to this order of the House be redacted of names and other identifying information of whistleblowers, including job titles."

Debate continued.

Mr Rath spoke a second time to the amendments of Ms Moriarty.

Mr Rath moved: That amendment no. 1 of Ms Moriarty be amended by omitting "56 days" and inserting instead "1 day".

Dr Cohn spoke a second time to the amendment of Mr Rath.

Question: That the amendment of Mr Rath to amendment no. 1 of Ms Moriarty be agreed to—put and passed.

Question: That the amendments of Ms Moriarty, as amended, be agreed to—put and passed.

Original question, as amended, put:

- (1) That, under standing order 52, there be laid upon the table of the House within 1 day of the date of the final report into the Liverpool City Council Public Inquiry the following documents in the possession, custody or control of the Minister for Local Government or the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (including the Office of Local Government) relating to Liverpool City Council:
 - (a) all correspondence, sent by the Office of Local Government between 1 November 2022 and 7 May 2024 to Liverpool City Council in relation to requests for information under section 430 or 734A of the Local Government Act,
 - (b) all documents relating to the establishment of the Public Inquiry into Liverpool City Council, including the appointment of the Commissioner,
 - (c) all documents provided by the Office of Local Government to the Public Inquiry relating to the section 430 investigation, or the interim report of the section 430 investigation, into Liverpool City Council,
 - (d) all documents relating to the appointment of the external instructing solicitors and counsel assisting the Commissioner for the Public Inquiry into Liverpool City Council, and
 - (e) any legal or other advice regarding the scope or validity of this order of the House created as a result of this order of the House.
- (2) That:
 - (a) this order of the House does not require the production of documents relating to witness testimony, including supporting documents, public interest disclosures, interview transcripts or investigation notes, and
 - (b) documents returned to this order of the House be redacted of names and other identifying information of whistleblowers, including job titles.

The House divided.

Ayes 20
Noes 15

Majority5

AYES

Barrett
Boyd
Carter
Cohn
Faehrmann
Fang (teller)
Farlow

Higginson
Hurst
Latham
MacDonald
Maclaren-Jones
Martin
Merton

Mitchell
Munro
Overall
Rath (teller)
Roberts
Ruddick

NOES

Banasiak
Borsak
Buttigieg
D'Adam
Donnelly

Houssos
Jackson
Kaine
Lawrence
Moriarty

Murphy (teller)
Nanva (teller)
Primrose
Sharpe
Suvaal

PAIRS

Tudehope
Ward

Mookhey
Graham

Question resolved in the affirmative.