

The emails below are in relation to your request

From: "Lennox, Cllr Jessica" <[Jessica.Lennox@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Jessica.Lennox@leeds.gov.uk)>  
Date: Fri, 28 Sep 2018, 12:02  
To: "Turnbull, Geoffrey" <[Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk)>,"Blake, Cllr Judith" <[Judith.Blake@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Judith.Blake@leeds.gov.uk)>  
CC: "Wilson, Rob" <[Rob.Wilson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Rob.Wilson@leeds.gov.uk)>,"Brooks, Cllr Kayleigh" <[Kayleigh.Brooks@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Kayleigh.Brooks@leeds.gov.uk)>,"Bithell, Cllr Hannah" <[Hannah.Bithell@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Hannah.Bithell@leeds.gov.uk)>,"Pryor, Cllr Jonathan" <[Jonathan.Pryor@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Jonathan.Pryor@leeds.gov.uk)>  
Subject: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

Hi Geoff, hi Judith,

I'm writing to you with great urgency, as I have been made aware this morning that the Civic Hall has been booked for use this evening by a group called A Woman's Place.

A Woman's Place is a group dedicated to attacking the rights and freedoms of trans women to define themselves as such, and live and interact as women in public spaces. They claim that the existence of trans women in public spaces puts women at risk of harm and discrimination. They claim to speak the "truth", but in reality practice nothing more than hate speech against an extremely marginalised and vulnerable group. Most disgustingly, they regularly accuse trans women of being perpetrators of rape and sexual assault, when plentiful evidence shows that trans women are disproportionately at risk of violence themselves.

Please see the email below. Not only has this group been allowed to book a room at the Civic Hall for their hate rally, they have seemingly also secured security protection and special treatment.

This year, Leeds Pride was led by Trans Leeds as a show of solidarity and resistance against the growing hate, discrimination and violence that trans women experience. The LGBT community and its allies from across Leeds united in a display of visible, unwavering support for the Trans community, and it was the biggest and most euphoric Pride I remember since moving to our city.

How then, can we sanction a group which seeks to harm and dehumanise the trans community in such insidious and malevolent ways, by allowing them to use the civic heart of our city to promote their hatred?

My colleagues and I request that immediate action is taken to establish how this booking was made, to cancel it immediately, and to ensure that Leeds' integrity as an ally and a supporter of the Trans community is not sullied and embarrassed by giving a platform for a small number of bigots who hold completely unacceptable views.

Yours Faithfully

Cllr Jessica Lennox

Cross Gates and Whinmoor Ward  
Tel: [07803 359 003](tel:07803359003)  
Civic Hall, Leeds LS1 1UR

Begin forwarded message:

----- Forwarded Message -----

**Subject:**Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

**Date:**Fri, 28 Sep 2018 10:00:50 -0000

**From:**Woman's Place UK <[noreply@eventbrite.com](mailto:noreply@eventbrite.com)>

**Reply-To:**[WPUKevents@gmail.com](mailto:WPUKevents@gmail.com)



[<image001.jpg>](#)

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**A Message from Woman's Place UK:**

Dear All,

We hope you are really looking forward to **A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth** this evening!

We will be pleased to welcome you all to listen to our speakers and to engage in a lively and respectful conversation about sex-based rights and gender identity.

Given actions against previous events at which women have met to discuss these issues we are releasing the venue details today to ticket holders only.

*This information is confidential to ticket holders:*

**A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth**

**7pm, doors open at 6.30pm**

**Leeds Civic Hall**

**Calverley Street**

**Leeds**

**LS1 1UR**

**Map**

**Directions:** enter the meeting via the side entrance, off Portland Crescent, to the right of the building when standing in front in Millenium Square. If you are driving, disabled parking is available at the entrance and others can park on the street or use the Rose Bowl car park behind the Civic Building.

Please be aware that tickets are non-transferable and ID may be requested to ensure that this is respected. If you have ordered an additional ticket for someone else, be sure to email us with their names.

We ask you not to bring unnecessary bags or luggage to the event and if you do bring a bag we hope you will understand if we ask for it to be searched. At the stewards' discretion some items might be held at the front desk and returned at the end.

Talks will be filmed for later release, but we ask that no filming, photography or audio recording is done by the audience. Come prepared to live tweet from our meeting on **#WPUKLEEDS**.

We have made all our arrangements with the intention of providing the calmest and best possible forum for speakers and audience to engage, pose questions and discuss.

Best wishes

Woman's Place UK

<https://womansplaceuk.org/>

@Womans\_Place\_UK

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## A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

<image002.jpg>

Friday, 28 September 2018 from  
19:00 to 21:00 (BST)

<image002.jpg>

Leeds  
Venue tbc

United Kingdom

Organised by [Woman's Place UK](#)

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[Mobile Tickets](#)

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This email was sent to [REDACTED]

To stop receiving emails from this organiser, you can [unsubscribe](#)

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 Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

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**From:** Bithell, Cllr Hannah

**Sent:** 28 September 2018 12:08

**To:** Lennox, Cllr Jessica <[Jessica.Lennox@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Jessica.Lennox@leeds.gov.uk)>; Turnbull, Geoffrey <[Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk)>; Blake, Cllr Judith <[Judith.Blake@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Judith.Blake@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Cc:** Wilson, Rob <[Rob.Wilson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Rob.Wilson@leeds.gov.uk)>; Brooks, Cllr Kayleigh <[Kayleigh.Brooks@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Kayleigh.Brooks@leeds.gov.uk)>; Pryor, Cllr Jonathan <[Jonathan.Pryor@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Jonathan.Pryor@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** Re: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

Good afternoon

As member champion for Trans Women I cannot echo Cllr Lennox loudly enough. The efforts they go to to restrict the rights of trans women is entirely at odds to the protection of rights that we seek to achieve for everyone across our city.

I further echo the actions Cllr Lennox has called for.

Many thanks  
Cllr Hannah Bithell

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**From:** "Turnbull, Geoffrey" <[Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Date:** Friday, 28 September 2018 at 12:34:44

**To:** "Rogers, James" <[James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Evans, Helen" <[Helen.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Helen.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Mahmood, Shaid" <[Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Yeung, Lelir" <[Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Cc:** "Jarmin, Elizabeth" <[Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** FW: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

Fyi all re Cllr Bithell's follow up below. Also I have had Cllr Brooks on the phone and also Cllr Lewis who has advised me he has asked Sarah Martin to look into the process for cancelling a booking.

Kind Regards,

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On 28 Sep 2018, at 12:40, Rogers, James <[James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk)> wrote:

Thanks. Is it right that none of us knew this was happening in the Civic Hall tonight until we received the email below?

Tom /Neil- FYI

Regards

James

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**From:** "Riordan, Tom" <[Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk)>  
**Date:** Friday, 28 September 2018 at 13:05:22  
**To:** "Rogers, James" <[James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk)>  
**Cc:** "Turnbull, Geoffrey" <[Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Evans, Helen" <[Helen.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Helen.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Mahmood, Shaid" <[Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Yeung, Lelir" <[Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Jarmin, Elizabeth" <[Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Evans, Neil" <[Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Wright, Catherine" <[Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Re: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

Just to be clear we are cancelling this booking as it was booked under false pretences.

Plse make sure we have a comms line and Civic colleagues are fully briefed in case people arrive for the meeting.

T

Tom Riordan  
Chief Executive  
Leeds City Council  
Civic Hall 3rd Floor East  
Leeds  
LS1 1UR

01133788239  
[twitter.com/tomriordan](https://twitter.com/tomriordan)

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**From:** Riordan, Tom  
**Sent:** 28 September 2018 13:16  
**To:** Bithell, Cllr Hannah <[Hannah.Bithell@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Hannah.Bithell@leeds.gov.uk)>  
**Cc:** Pryor, Cllr Jonathan <[Jonathan.Pryor@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Jonathan.Pryor@leeds.gov.uk)>; Jackson, Richard <[Richard.N.Jackson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Richard.N.Jackson@leeds.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Re: URGENT

Cllr Bithell

After consulting the Leader and Cllr Lewis, we are cancelling the booking.

I understand the event was booked without the council being aware of the nature of it until today. Richard can provide more details and I've asked him to consider any safeguards we can put in place to reduce the risk of it happening again.

Best wishes

Tom

Tom Riordan

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**From:** "Turnbull, Geoffrey" <[Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk)>  
**Date:** Friday, 28 September 2018 at 13:16:12  
**To:** "Wright, Catherine" <[Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Communications Team"

<[CommunicationsTeam@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:CommunicationsTeam@leeds.gov.uk)>

Cc: "Evans, Helen" <[Helen.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Helen.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Mahmood, Shaid"

<[Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Yeung, Lelir" <[Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Jarmin, Elizabeth"

<[Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Evans, Neil" <[Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Riordan, Tom"

<[Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Rogers, James" <[James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** RE: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

Hi Catherine,

Can we liaise re the message/comms line we are using. As well as a message from [REDACTED] at Mesmac that Cllr James Lewis has already asked for a few lines to respond to we are getting messages from activists all over the city so once we have something agreed I think we need to consider sending something out via the LGBT+ Hub mailing list?

Kind Regards,

Geoff

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13.40. Colin Dickinson, Geoff T.

See below

Think our line for reason for cancelling would be that it isn't in line with the council values.

Not sure where the social media presence is, but Geoff Turnbull can possibly help. Copied him in Mariana Pexton

Chief Officer – Strategy and Improvement

Leeds City Council – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor East, Civic Hall

E mail: [mariana.pexton@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:mariana.pexton@leeds.gov.uk)

Phone: 0113 37 88244

Mobile: [REDACTED]

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13.48. Cllr K Brooks, Cllr H Bithell, Cllr J Lennox, Geoff T, Cllr Judith Blake, Cllr J Pryor, Graham Sephton, Neil Evans.

Hi

Unfortunately I'm not around today as I'm at the Stonewall conference, but adding to the below if this goes ahead it would seriously undermine the progressive Trans Inclusion work we as a Staff Network have been leading & supporting.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Turnbull, Geoffrey  
**Sent:** 28 September 2018 13:50  
**To:** Dickinson, Colin <[Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk)>  
**Cc:** Pexton, Mariana <[Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT

Colin I will give you a call. Sarah is having a very difficult conversation with the organisers as we speak.

We need a message that can go out to Members, organisations and individuals who have been emailing all morning. Sarah needs to lead but obviously we need to support that being produced asap.

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**From:** Cox, Donna  
**Sent:** 28 September 2018 14:07  
**To:** Pexton, Mariana <[Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk)>; Rogers, James <[James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk)>; Riordan, Tom <[Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk)>  
**Cc:** Turnbull, Geoffrey <[Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk)>; Evans, Helen <[Helen.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Helen.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>; Mahmood, Shaid <[Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk)>; Yeung, Lelir <[Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk)>; Jarmin, Elizabeth <[Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk)>; Evans, Neil <[Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>; Wright, Catherine <[Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

Here's what Colin's drafted so far, based on a similar statement we did earlier this year for the Media on Trial event that was cancelled at the museum. He's also checked Twitter and there's nothing posted as yet.

Best wishes,

Donna

**A Leeds City Council spokesperson said:**

"We recently received a request for a meeting to be held at Leeds Civic Hall by Women's Place UK.

"Since accepting the booking, we have been made aware of further details regarding some of the views which have been raised by this group previously, which are not in line with Leeds City Council's values on gender and equality.

"We have therefore decided that Leeds Civic Hall is not an appropriate venue for this event and have informed the organisers that their booking has been cancelled."

Colin Dickinson.

Leeds City Council communications officer.

Email: [colin.dickinson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:colin.dickinson@leeds.gov.uk)

Tel: 0113 37 89170.

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**From:** "Turnbull, Geoffrey" <[Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk)>  
**Date:** Friday, 28 September 2018 at 14:12:20  
**To:** "Dickinson, Colin" <[Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk)>



Cc: "Pexton, Mariana" <[Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk)>

Subject: RE: URGENT

Still waiting to see the booking form to see exactly what it says but I have made a few suggestions before we send to Sarah for her thoughts and then get clearance from... well lots of people I suspect: Cllrs Lewis, Pryor and Blake, James Rogers, Neil Evans Tom.

~~"We recently received a request~~ A booking was made some time ago for an meeting event to be held at Leeds Civic Hall by Women's Place UK.

~~"Since accepting the booking, Officers who accepted the booking were not aware of the controversial nature of the topic to be discussed nor the associated disruption which has taken place at similar events elsewhere in the country at similar events. The Civic Hall is a public building and the safety of staff and visitors is our primary concern. The organisers of the event had withheld the location for this reason. The Council is fully supportive of the cities LGBT+ community including our Trans residents, in line with our values, approach to Equality and Diversity through our Equality and Diversity Policy; and Equality law. and has been undertaking~~ Elwe have been made aware of further details regarding some of the views which have been raised by this group previously, which are not in line with Leeds City Council's values on gender and equality.

"We have therefore decided that Leeds Civic Hall is not an appropriate venue for this event and have informed the organisers that their booking has been cancelled."

Thoughts?

Geoff

---

From James Rogers 28 Sept at 14.20

Donna,

Looks fine to me - might be worthwhile touching base with Sarah as Tom suggested in an earlier email that there had also been some deception about what the purpose of the meeting was for so could potentially add more justification if that was appropriate.

Regards

James

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14.26. [REDACTED] at Mesmac, Cllr A Lowe, Cllr J Lewis, Cllr S Golton, Geoff T. [REDACTED], Rob Wilson.

Hi Tom

Thanks for your email.

We are cancelling the booking and will be releasing the following statement:

We recently received a request for a meeting to be held at Leeds Civic Hall by Women's Place UK.



“Since accepting the booking, we have been made aware of further details regarding some of the views which have been raised by this group previously, which are not in line with Leeds City Council’s values on gender and equality.

“We have therefore decided that Leeds Civic Hall is not an appropriate venue for this event and have informed the organisers that their booking has been cancelled.”

Best wishes

Tom

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**From:** Yeung, Lelir

**Sent:** 28 September 2018 14:27

**To:** Cox, Donna <[Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk)>; Pexton, Mariana <[Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk)>; Rogers, James <[James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk)>; Riordan, Tom <[Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Cc:** Turnbull, Geoffrey <[Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk)>; Evans, Helen <[Helen.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Helen.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>; Mahmood, Shaid <[Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk)>; Jarmin, Elizabeth <[Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk)>; Evans, Neil <[Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>; Wright, Catherine <[Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** RE: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

Donna

Just a thought as we don’t have a specific policy on gender would it be better to say ‘values on equality and inclusion’

Thanks

Lelir

Lelir Yeung  
Head of Equality  
Communities and Environment  
Leeds City Council  
Enterprise House  
12 St Pauls Street  
Leeds  
LS1 2LE

Telephone 0113 37 89045

Mobile [REDACTED]

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**From:** Cox, Donna

**Sent:** 28 September 2018 15:11

**To:** Yeung, Lelir; Pexton, Mariana; Rogers, James; Riordan, Tom

**Cc:** Turnbull, Geoffrey; Evans, Helen; Mahmood, Shaid; Jarmin, Elizabeth; Evans, Neil; Wright, Catherine; Dickinson, Colin

**Subject:** RE: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

Everyone,

Colin's now spoken to Sarah and since she's explained that the booking was turned down on safety grounds, we think it'd be better to keep the comment in line with that, as that's the issue on which we would expect a challenge to be based.

However, I think we should keep the initial comment on standby in case the debate opens up further, and Colin's re-drafted it, taking into account all the comments everyone's offered, so what we're proposing (and now sending over to Cllr Lewis for a view) is as follows:

**Main comment:**

**A Leeds City Council spokesperson said:**

"We recently received a request for a meeting to be held at Leeds Civic Hall by Women's Place UK. Since accepting the booking, we have been made aware of further details regarding some of the views which have been raised by this group previously that have attracted controversy and led to safety concerns at other venues hosting similar events.

"We have therefore decided in the interests of our staff that Leeds Civic Hall is not an appropriate venue for this event and have informed the organisers that their booking has been cancelled."

**Standby comment:**

**A Leeds City Council spokesperson said:**

"We recently received a request for a meeting to be held at Leeds Civic Hall by Women's Place UK. Since accepting the booking, we have been made aware of further details regarding some of the views which have been raised by this group previously that are not in line with Leeds City Council's values and policies on equality and inclusion.

"We understand these views have attracted controversy and led to safety concerns at other venues hosting similar events. We have therefore decided that Leeds Civic Hall is not an appropriate venue for this event and have informed the organisers that their booking has been cancelled."

**Notes to editors:** Leeds City Council's equality policy can be found [here](#) (opens as a PDF)

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On 28 Sep 2018, at 15:14, Rogers, James <[James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk)> wrote:

Thanks Donna, fine with me.

**James Rogers | Director of Communities and Environment | Leeds City Council**

**[0113 3788241](tel:01133788241) | [www.leeds.gov.uk](http://www.leeds.gov.uk)**

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**From:** Riordan, Tom

**Sent:** 28 September 2018 15:15

**To:** Rogers, James <[James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Cc:** Cox, Donna <[Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk)>; Yeung, Lelir <[Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk)>; Pexton, Mariana <[Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk)>; Turnbull, Geoffrey <[Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk)>; Evans, Helen <[Helen.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Helen.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>; Mahmood, Shaid <[Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk)>;

Jarmin, Elizabeth <[Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk)>; Evans, Neil <[Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>; Wright, Catherine <[Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk)>; Dickinson, Colin <[Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Re: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

I've already replied to a few of the concerns not citing the safety element but happy with this.

T

Tom Riordan  
Chief Executive  
Leeds City Council  
Civic Hall 3rd Floor East  
Leeds  
LS1 1UR

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**From:** "Turnbull, Geoffrey" <[Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk)>  
**Date:** Friday, 28 September 2018 at 15:28:55  
**To:** "Riordan, Tom" <[Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Rogers, James" <[James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk)>  
**Cc:** "Cox, Donna" <[Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Yeung, Lelir" <[Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Pexton, Mariana" <[Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Mahmood, Shaid" <[Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Jarmin, Elizabeth" <[Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Evans, Neil" <[Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Wright, Catherine" <[Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Dickinson, Colin" <[Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Martin, Sarah" <[Sarah.Martin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Sarah.Martin@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Evans, Neil" <[Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

Hi All,

I am aware that there are lots of interested parties involved in this and lots of messages flying around. I know it's important to deal with the technical issue of why we are cancelling the booking however, as the Council's LGBT+ Engagement Officer I think I would be remiss in not pointing out that what we are proposing as a message does not address the considerable concerns raised by the 30 plus people who have directly emailed the Leader this morning re us as an organisation taking a firm view not to host events or give platforms to people who are expressing Transphobic views. Whilst it is legitimate to cancel the event on the grounds of security, the views of the Trans activists, Mesmac and in the last few minutes the Council's LGBT+ Hub Reps who have rung me would be that we should not have hosted this event irrespective of security concerns. If we don't address this we may get considerable criticism that will damage our reputation and the good work we have undertaken over the last few years with the LGBT+ community.

My suggested response is:

"A booking was made some time ago for an event to be held at Leeds Civic Hall by Women's Place UK.

Officers who accepted the booking were not aware of the controversial nature of the topic to be discussed nor the associated disruption which has taken place at similar events elsewhere in the country at similar events. The Civic Hall is a public building and the safety of staff and visitors is our primary concern. The organisers of the event had withheld the location for this reason. The Council is fully supportive of the city's LGBT+ community including our Trans residents, in line with our values, approach to Equality and Diversity through our Equality and Diversity Policy; and Equality law. In addition to security concerns we would not want to provide a platform for those using hate

speech or expressing views which are Transphobic. We have therefore decided that Leeds Civic Hall is not an appropriate venue for this event and have informed the organisers that their booking has been cancelled."

Kind Regards,

Geoff

---

On 28 Sep 2018, at 15:43, Rogers, James <[James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk)> wrote:

Geoff,

I very much understand the point being made. I know Donna is speaking with Cllr Lewis about the statements so would be helpful if you could share this with both of them and you three agree a form of words that a) forms a press statement and b) a fuller piece to send to complainants.

Regards

James

---

**From:** Riordan, Tom

**Sent:** 28 September 2018 15:44

**To:** Rogers, James <[James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Cc:** Turnbull, Geoffrey <[Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk)>; Cox, Donna <[Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk)>;

Yeung, Lelir <[Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk)>; Pexton, Mariana <[Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk)>;

Mahmood, Shaid <[Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk)>; Jarmin, Elizabeth <[Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk)>;

Evans, Neil <[Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>; Wright, Catherine <[Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk)>;

Dickinson, Colin <[Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk)>; Martin, Sarah <[Sarah.Martin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Sarah.Martin@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** Re: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

I agree and think we should reflect the wider points that Geoff makes. It reflects what we've done more thoroughly and accurately.

T

Tom Riordan  
Chief Executive  
Leeds City Council  
Civic Hall 3rd Floor East  
Leeds  
LS1 1UR

01133788239

[twitter.com/tomriordan](https://twitter.com/tomriordan)

---

Original Message

From: "Blake, Cllr Judith" <[Judith.Blake@leeds](mailto:Judith.Blake@leeds)>

Date: Fri, 28 Sep 2018,15:49

To: "Lennox, Cllr Jessica" <[Jessica.Lennox@1e](mailto:Jessica.Lennox@1e)>

Subject: RE: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A'Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

Hi Jess

We have cancelled the booking and are releasing the following statement:

We recently received a request for a meeting to be held at Leeds Civic Hall by Women's Place UK. Since accepting the booking, we have been made aware of further details regarding some of the views which have been raised by this group previously, which are not in line with Leeds City Council's values on gender and equality.

We have therefore decided that Leeds Civic Hall is not an appropriate venue for this event and have informed the organisers that their booking has been cancelled.

Best wishes, Judith  
Councillor Judith Blake CBE  
Leader of Leeds City Council  
4th floor Civic Hall  
Leeds LS1 1UR

---

**From:** "Turnbull, Geoffrey" <[Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Date:** Friday, 28 September 2018 at 15:51:32

**To:** "Riordan, Tom" <[Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Rogers, James" <[James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Cc:** "Cox, Donna" <[Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Yeung, Lelir" <[Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Pexton, Mariana" <[Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Mahmood, Shaid" <[Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Jarmin, Elizabeth" <[Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Evans, Neil" <[Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Wright, Catherine" <[Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Dickinson, Colin" <[Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Martin, Sarah" <[Sarah.Martin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Sarah.Martin@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Lewis, Cllr James" <[James.Lewis@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Lewis@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** RE: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

Dear All,

I have just spoken to Cllr Lewis and he has agreed that the fuller statement I have drafted below is the one used to go to the LGBT+ Hub which we will do shortly (approx. 400 organisations and individuals).

I would suggest this is also provided to Cllr Blake's staff to use in responding to the many emails she has received today.

Kind Regards,

---

**From:** Turnbull, Geoffrey

**Sent:** 28 September 2018 15:52

**To:** Riordan, Tom <[Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk)>; Rogers, James <[James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Cc:** Cox, Donna <[Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk)>; Yeung, Lelir <[Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk)>; Pexton, Mariana <[Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk)>; Mahmood, Shaid <[Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk)>; Jarmin, Elizabeth <[Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk)>; Evans, Neil <[Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>; Wright, Catherine <[Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk)>; Dickinson, Colin <[Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk)>; Martin, Sarah <[Sarah.Martin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Sarah.Martin@leeds.gov.uk)>; Lewis, Cllr James <[James.Lewis@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Lewis@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** RE: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

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I would suggest this is also provided to Cllr Blake's staff to use in responding to the many emails she has received today.

Kind Regards,

---

**From:** "Cox, Donna" <[Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk)>  
**Date:** Friday, 28 September 2018 at 16:05:45  
**To:** "Turnbull, Geoffrey" <[Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Riordan, Tom" <[Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Rogers, James" <[James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk)>  
**Cc:** "Yeung, Lelir" <[Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Pexton, Mariana" <[Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Mahmood, Shaid" <[Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Jarmin, Elizabeth" <[Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Evans, Neil" <[Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Wright, Catherine" <[Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Dickinson, Colin" <[Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Martin, Sarah" <[Sarah.Martin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Sarah.Martin@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Lewis, Cllr James" <[James.Lewis@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Lewis@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Boyde, Roger" <[Roger.Boyde@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Roger.Boyde@leeds.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

Thanks to everyone for all your input with this.

[Geoff – I had already passed your views on to Cllr Lewis as obviously it's important to consider it from all perspectives.] He's called me and this is what we've agreed.

Cllr Lewis is going to send Geoff's statement in his own name as LGBT+ champion directly to the LGBT+ community and we will keep the second statement (the standby one – i.e. this one below) ready to send to any mainstream media who get in touch.

I've copied in Roger, who's on call for us this weekend, so he can liaise as necessary and keep Cllr Lewis updated as to any media interest. Sarah's given us the number of 0113 378 8624 for general enquiries about whether the event's going ahead.

**A Leeds City Council spokesperson said:**

"We recently received a request for a meeting to be held at Leeds Civic Hall by Women's Place UK. Since accepting the booking, we have been made aware of further details regarding some of the views which have been raised by this group previously that are not in line with Leeds City Council's values and policies on equality and inclusion.

"We understand these views have attracted controversy and led to safety concerns at other venues hosting similar events. We have therefore decided that Leeds Civic Hall is not an appropriate venue for this event and have informed the organisers that their booking has been cancelled."

**Notes to editors:** Leeds City Council's equality policy can be found [here](#) (opens as a PDF)

Best wishes,

Donna

---

From: "Lennox, Cllr Jessica" <[Jessica.Lennox@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Jessica.Lennox@leeds.gov.uk)>

Date: Fri, 28 Sep 2018,16:17

To: "Blake, Cllr Judith" <[Judith.Blake@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Judith.Blake@leeds.gov.uk)>



Subject: Re: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A'Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

Thanks so much for taking action and updating us on it Judith, I think by LCC taking this decision a lot of hurt and harm has been avoided.

Very best wishes

Cllr Jessica Lennox  
Cross Gates and Whinmoor'Ward  
07803 359 003  
Civic Hall, Leeds, LS1 IUR

---

**From:** "Rogers, James" <[James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Date:** Friday, 28 September 2018 at 16:17:35

**To:** "Cox, Donna" <[Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Turnbull, Geoffrey" <[Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Riordan, Tom" <[Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Cc:** "Yeung, Lelir" <[Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Pexton, Mariana" <[Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Mahmood, Shaid" <[Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Jarmin, Elizabeth" <[Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Evans, Neil" <[Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Wright, Catherine" <[Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Dickinson, Colin" <[Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Martin, Sarah" <[Sarah.Martin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Sarah.Martin@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Lewis, Cllr James" <[James.Lewis@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Lewis@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Boyde, Roger" <[Roger.Boyde@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Roger.Boyde@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Money, Paul" <[Paul.Money@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Paul.Money@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** Re: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

Cllr Lewis has just informed me that they are now planning a protest at the Civic Hall for this evening - presumably at the same time the event was due to take place - I've organised for community safety/policing colleagues to attend to monitor.

Regards

James

---

**From:** Rogers, James

**Sent:** 28 September 2018 16:19

**To:** Cox, Donna <[Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk)>; Turnbull, Geoffrey <[Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk)>; Riordan, Tom <[Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Cc:** Yeung, Lelir <[Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk)>; Pexton, Mariana <[Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk)>; Mahmood, Shaid <[Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk)>; Jarmin, Elizabeth <[Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk)>; Evans, Neil <[Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>; Wright, Catherine <[Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk)>; Dickinson, Colin <[Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk)>; Martin, Sarah <[Sarah.Martin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Sarah.Martin@leeds.gov.uk)>; Lewis, Cllr James <[James.Lewis@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Lewis@leeds.gov.uk)>; Boyde, Roger <[Roger.Boyde@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Roger.Boyde@leeds.gov.uk)>; Money, Paul <[Paul.Money@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Paul.Money@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** Re: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

Police presence also arranged at Town Hall just in case.

Regards

James

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**From:** Cox, Donna

**Sent:** 28 September 2018 16:34

**To:** Rogers, James <[James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk)>; Turnbull, Geoffrey <[Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk)>; Riordan, Tom <[Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Cc:** Yeung, Lelir <[Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk)>; Pexton, Mariana <[Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk)>; Mahmood, Shaid <[Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk)>; Jarmin, Elizabeth <[Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk)>; Evans, Neil <[Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>; Wright, Catherine <[Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk)>; Dickinson, Colin <[Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk)>; Martin, Sarah <[Sarah.Martin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Sarah.Martin@leeds.gov.uk)>; Lewis, Cllr James <[James.Lewis@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Lewis@leeds.gov.uk)>; Boyde, Roger <[Roger.Boyde@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Roger.Boyde@leeds.gov.uk)>; Money, Paul <[Paul.Money@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Paul.Money@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** RE: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

Everyone – for information the group of around 10 bloggers Visit Leeds are hosting this weekend are staying at The Radisson in The Light. Some of our communications colleagues are helping look after them. It's worth being aware that there is an outside chance they might encounter this protest.

The timings suggest not, but some of them have arrived already and are already exploring the city. However, they're all due to meet at Headrow House at 6pm, in advance of the event's timing. They're then going from there to Shears Yard and The Maven (towards the south end of town) directly from there. They're not due back till around 11pm, so they should miss any activity connected to protests around this event. I've made the relevant comms colleagues aware.

Best wishes,

Donna

**From:** "Cox, Donna" <[Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Date:** Friday, 28 September 2018 at 16:57:09

**To:** "Rogers, James" <[James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Rogers@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Turnbull, Geoffrey" <[Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Geoffrey.Turnbull@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Riordan, Tom" <[Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Tom.Riordan@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Cc:** "Yeung, Lelir" <[Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Lelir.Yeung@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Pexton, Mariana" <[Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Mariana.Pexton@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Mahmood, Shaid" <[Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Shaid.Mahmood@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Jarmin, Elizabeth" <[Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Liz.Jarmin@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Evans, Neil" <[Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Neil.Evans@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Wright, Catherine" <[Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.Wright@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Dickinson, Colin" <[Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Colin.Dickinson@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Martin, Sarah" <[Sarah.Martin@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Sarah.Martin@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Lewis, Cllr James" <[James.Lewis@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:James.Lewis@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Boyde, Roger" <[Roger.Boyde@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Roger.Boyde@leeds.gov.uk)>, "Money, Paul" <[Paul.Money@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Paul.Money@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** RE: URGENT Fwd: Message to attendees of A Woman's Place is Speaking the Truth

Latest update: Aisha Iqbal from the YEP has just called to ask about this as she'd had calls both from the organisers and from someone in the community who told her they believed the group to be transphobic. She says she's aware there's more to the story than meets the eye. I'm sending her our statement.

Also, the group have recently posted this on their Twitter feed. So far a number of retweets and two replies, one asking for info and the other saying "appalling". Here's the link too in case you want to view updates over the weekend: [https://twitter.com/womans\\_place\\_uk?lang=en](https://twitter.com/womans_place_uk?lang=en)



**Womans Place UK** @Womans\_Place\_UK · 3m



IMPORTANT NOTICE - It is with regret that we have to announce that our meeting in Leeds cannot go ahead due to late and unreasonable cancellation. We will be emailing attendees shortly with more information. We condemn this act of silencing women. More to follow.

1 15 17

Best wishes,

Donna

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28 Sept at 17.18 from James Rogers

Thanks Donna, helpful. Their twitter feed doesn't mention a protest anywhere tonight so hopefully it will be a small or non existent.

Regards

James

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**From:** "Cox, Donna" <[Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Donna.Cox@leeds.gov.uk)>

**Date:** Friday, 28 September 2018 at 16:05:45

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“We understand these views have attracted controversy and led to safety concerns at other venues hosting similar events. We have therefore decided that Leeds Civic Hall is not an appropriate venue for this event and have informed the organisers that their booking has been cancelled.”

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