

Motions Not for Debate

a) Councillor Johnson to move

Balancing the Budget

The council must set a balanced budget; we must act responsibly with local people's money. We will focus the money the council spends on delivering our principles.

They are:

- Making every effort to protect those at risk in our borough including elderly, disabled, children and young people who use our services.
- Building residents' resilience and social capital through acting as an enabling council.
- Intervening in problems as early as possible to deliver the best results for residents.
- Seeking solutions that make use of local people's knowledge, enthusiasm and commitment to the borough.
- Seeking to maximise employment and economic growth in the borough by being an exemplary employer and by encouraging local business growth.
- Making our services and those we commission world class and focused on what matters to local people.

Whilst implementing these principles we will see to it that public money is used as efficiently as possible by cutting out waste, using new technologies to make services more efficient and seeking to work collaboratively with all our partners in the public sector and beyond.

b) Councillor Anand to move

Housing and Planning Bill

This council notes:

- That the Housing and Planning Bill is currently being debated in Parliament, and if passed would threaten the provision of affordable homes for rent and buy through:
 - forcing 'high-value' council homes to be sold on the open market;
 - extending the right-to-buy to housing association tenants; and
 - undermining section 106 requirements on private developers to provide affordable homes.

- That there is no commitment in the Bill that affordable homes will be replaced like-for-like in the local area.
- That whilst measures to help first-time buyers are welcome, the 'starter homes' proposals in the Bill will be unaffordable to families and young people on ordinary incomes in most parts of the country; will not preserve the taxpayer investment; and will be built at the expense of genuinely-affordable homes to rent and buy.
- That the Bill undermines localism by taking 32 new wide and open-ended powers for the Secretary over councils and local communities, including the ability to override local plans, to mandate rents for social tenants, and to impose a levy on stock-holding councils, violating the terms of the housing revenue account self-financing deal.
- That the Bill, whilst introducing some welcome measures to get to grips with rogue landlords, does not help with the high rents, poor conditions and insecurity affecting many of England's 11m private renters – including one in four families with children – and does nothing to help arrest the recent rise in homelessness.

This council resolves:

- To analyse and report on the likely impact of the forced sale of council homes, the extension of right-to-buy and the 'starter homes' requirement on the local availability of affordable homes.
- To analyse and report on any further likely impacts of the Bill on the local area.
- To use this information to:
 - support the Leader of the Council in writing to the Secretary of State with our concerns about the Bill;
 - set up an urgent meeting between the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive with the local Members of Parliament to raise our concerns;
 - make public our concerns, including by publishing the above information on the council's website and promoting through the local press.

c) Councillor Bell to move

Trade Unions

This Council recognises the positive contribution that trade unions and trade union members make in our workplaces.

This Council values the constructive relationship that we have with our trade unions and we recognise their commitment, and the commitment of all our staff, to the delivery of good quality public services.

This Council notes with concern the Trade Union Bill which is currently being proposed by the Government and which would affect this Council's relationship with our trade unions and our workforce as a whole. This Council rejects this Bill's attack on local democracy and the attack on localism.

This Council is clear that facility time, negotiated and agreed by us and our trade unions to suit our own specific needs, has a valuable role to play in the creation of good quality and responsive local services. Controlling facility time centrally will require cumbersome central bureaucracy. This will undermine the case that savings can be made. The policy is also running contrary to the Government's stated desire to see decisions devolved to a local level.

This Council sees no benefit in scrapping the system for deducting trade union membership subscriptions through our payroll. The council will continue to have a check off system in place for other schemes like season ticket loans, bike loans and charitable giving. Therefore it is extremely unlikely there will be any saving to be made by abolishing it. This system is an administrative matter for the Council and should not be interfered with by national government or primary legislation.

This Council resolves to support the campaign against the unnecessary, anti-democratic and bureaucratic Trade Union Bill. We will continue to make representations to parliamentarians urging them to abandon the bill.

This Council further resolves to seek to continue its own locally agreed industrial relations strategy and good relations with our workforce and their representatives.

d) Councillor G. Stafford to move

Civic Events

This Council instructs that the following protocol be followed at civic events.

"All Civic Events will only have addresses or speeches by the Mayor or Deputy Mayor (or past mayor if substituting for the Mayor) and not from other politicians and councillors unless agreed by the political Group Whips".

e) Councillor G. Stafford to move

Council Meeting Filming - increasing democracy

This Council believes that an important part of local democracy is the ease by which residents can view meetings of the Council.

Therefore this Council asks officers to produce of a report into options for the live streaming or video recording of Council meetings.