Motions on Notice

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

Council Members are asked to consider the under-mentioned Motions:-

1. Road Safety

Councillors of all parties have concerns about road safety in our city. From speeding problems to road markings, we take seriously the complaints we receive from residents about dangerous driving, unsafe roads, and the sometimes inadequate response to these problems.

It is regrettable that too often the Council's response to road safety issues is too slow or defeatist – particularly when councillors are told, by Highways Officers, that there is no problem because 'the average driver does not speed' or because 'there has not been a fatal accident'.

Council believes that a culture change within the organisation is necessary and therefore resolves to:

- Change the way speeding problem areas are identified, moving away from the median to a system which reflects a mix of incidents numbers, police concerns, resident complaints, and councillor reports.
- Develop a strategy for dealing with anti-social driving outside of sociable hours.
- Improve the way that Sunderland City Council logs and reports upon residents' speeding complaints and to frequently communicate this data to Northumbria Police.
- Work more closely with the police on the installation of 20mph zones to ensure these can be effectively enforced.
- Work with Northumbria Police to establish Community Speed Watch schemes in problem areas.
- Introduce a system for councillors to request urgent junction protections be installed in areas of their wards where poor visibility is hazardous.
- Prioritise the re-painting of faded junction lines over other road markings where the faded junction lines present a danger to drivers' safety.

Councillor A. Mullen (Proposer) Councillor M. Hartnack (Seconder)

Signed by:-

Councillor L. Reed Councillor A. Mullen Councillor S. Johnston Councillor M. Hartnack Councillor G. Peacock Councillor M. Dixon Councillor P. Donaghy Councillor J. McKeith Councillor P. Wood Councillor J. Doyle

2. Government cuts in financial support to most vulnerable

Our Council recognises the significant impact on residents, particularly children and young people, of the deplorable decision of the Government to remove the Uplift provision for those on Universal Credit that will push many struggling families further into poverty.

This Council will therefore

- Support those at risk of financial difficulties by offering solutions such as actively participating in and the promotion of the Kickstart Scheme to local employers, inclusive of for those 16 24 on Universal Credit, to gain employment for a minimum of 6 months.
- Utilise and enhance our current Welfare Rights Service for those most vulnerable, supporting local job clubs and training provision help up-skill improve confidence and knowledge, to help our residents become more financially resilient through these challenging times to counteract the negative impact.
- Ask the Chief Finance Officer to write a further letter on behalf of the Council to the Chancellor and Prime Minister demanding the government re-introduce this payment as a matter of urgency to the many thousands of individuals, families and their children in Sunderland and the North-East that will be adversely affected by this austerity driven cut in financial support to the most vulnerable.

Councillor K. Noble (Proposer) Councillor C. Rowntree (Seconder)

Signed by:-

Councillor P. Stewart Councillor L. Farthing Councillor S. Laws Councillor D.E. Snowdon Councillor M. Butler Councillor L. Williams Councillor K. Johnson