Motions on Notice

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

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

1. Notice of Motion - Happy Birthday – NHS

This Council notes that on the 5th July 1948 an historic moment occurred in British history, a culmination of a bold and pioneering plan by the then Labour Government to make healthcare no longer exclusive to those who could afford it but to make it accessible to everyone. The NHS was born.

However, the new Minister for Health, Aneurin Bevan had to work hard to overcome opposition to the NHS ranging from the BMA through to the Conservative Party then led by Winston Churchill.

In spite of all opposition, the National Health Service came into being as part of a series of reforms which aimed to use money from taxes to provide support from the cradle to the grave.

In terms of healthcare the NHS brought many changes to Britain's health system.

These included:

- free medical treatment for all British citizens
- the nationalisation of hospitals under the Ministry of Health and organised into regional health authorities.
- The creation of health centres to provide services like vaccinations, maternity care, district nurses etc
- a better distribution of doctors around the country with GPs (general practitioners), opticians and dentists in every area

This council therefore proposes:

- To continue working with our colleagues in the NHS on how best to celebrate the 75 years that have brought great improvements to the health of our residents, inclusive of encouraging our schools and voluntary groups to actively participate in these celebrations.
- To help put steps in place to arrange for as many buildings, historic monuments and other high-profile sites across the city to 'light up' blue on the evening of 5 July.

Proposer Councillor Kelly Chequer Seconder Councillor Fiona Miller

Additional Signatories

2. Notice of Motion – Nuisance motorbikes

Sunderland Council notes that:

- It is increasingly common to see motorbikes and quadbikes which do not have a registration plate riding around our area;
- These motorbikes and quadbikes are often being ridden around our parks and open spaces, on pavements and on the public highway;
- Residents of Sunderland, Houghton, Hetton and Washington are experiencing regular disruption as a result of these motorbikes and quadbikes;
- Despite some police resources being committed to dealing with the problem, residents are losing faith in the ability of the police to address the problem;

Sunderland Council therefore resolves to:

- Invite the Cabinet to present an action plan to full council no later than 31st January 2024 detailing how it will restrict access for motorbikes and quadbikes to our parks and opens spaces in problem areas of the city;
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Police and Crime Commissioner to ask that more resources are devoted to addressing the issue of motorbike and quadbike antisocial behaviour in Sunderland, Houghton, Hetton and Washington;
- Invite the Police and Crime Commissioner to attend a meeting of Sunderland City Council to report back on the progress being made to address the issue of motorbike and quadbike antisocial behaviour. This invite will be for a meeting which will take place no later than 31st January 2024;
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Home Secretary and ask the Government to ensure that local Police are equipped with the powers and the funding necessary to enable them to tackle motorbike and quadbike anti-social behaviour.

Proposer Councillor Paul Edgeworth Seconder Councillor Ciaran Morrissey

Additional Signatories

Councillor Malcolm Bond Councillor Margaret Crosby Councillor Allen Curtis Councillor Heather Fagan Councillor Paul Gibson Councillor Martin Haswell Councillor Niall Hodson Councillor Colin Nicholson Councillor Stephen O'Brien Councillor Julia Potts Councillor George Smith Councillor Peter Walton Councillor Andrew Wood

3. Notice of Motion – School Crossing Patrols

Sunderland City Council has failed to recruit a sufficient number of school crossing patrol wardens to meet the needs of local children and parents.

Notwithstanding the length of time to acquire DBS checks at the enhanced level, Council notes that the role – pro rata, term time and limited hours – will only appeal to a small number of people and, coupled with this, the Council's recruitment process has been overly complicated for the role, with application packs spanning tens of pages. Creative ways of addressing the problem are required.

The Council therefore resolves to address this by asking the Chief Executive to explore two options and report to HR Committee.

- To create over time new, full-time parking enforcement staff whose role will also include undertaking school crossing patrols during term time to work alongside (not to replace) existing crossing patrol staff. When not undertaking crossing patrols, these staff members will then undertake enforcement work relating to parking.
- To consider the possibility of seconding existing members of staff (especially those with enhanced DBS checks) to undertake one crossing patrol per week as part of their existing role as a short-term solution to fill gaps whilst full-time staff are recruited.

Council also notes that there is a greater necessity to pay a market supplement premium to existing crossing patrol staff to maintain their services, rather than to Chief Officers.

Proposer Councillor Greg Peacock Seconder Councillor Lyall Reed Additional Signatories

Councillor Sam Johnston Councillor Lynn Vera Councillor Simon Ayre Councillor Antony Mullen Councillor Richard Dunn Councillor Michael Dixon Councillor Michael Hartnack