

Amendments to Notices of Motion

The Council is requested to consider the following amendment, submitted in accordance with Standing Order 12(1) and (9)

(1) Notice of Motion No. 1 – NATIONAL BUDGET

Amendment

Proposed by Councillor Phil Gilchrist

Seconded by Councillor Alan Brighthouse

Delete 'and the Coalition before' from paragraph 1.

Insert at the end of paragraph 1...

'The resignations from the Board of the Social Mobility Commission, including those of the former Labour Health Secretary, Alan Milburn, along with the former Conservative Education Secretary, Baroness Gillian Shephard, illustrate a growing lack of confidence in the Government's willingness or capacity to address social problems.

It should be recognised that the Liberal Democrats, during the Coalition period, secured progress on raising the Income Tax personal allowance, delivered the 'triple lock' on the State Pension, saw the introduction of the Pupil Premium and extended the coverage of free school meals.'

Delete paragraph 8 (beginning 'Once again it is clear...')

Insert new paragraphs 8 & 9...

'Council notes and endorses the criticisms of the Autumn Budget of November 2017 as set out by the Local Government Association, especially their comment that...

'It is hugely disappointing that the Budget offered nothing to ease the financial crisis facing local services. Funding gaps and rising demand for our adult social care and children's services are threatening the vital services which care for our elderly and disabled, protect children and support families. This is also having a huge knock-on effect on other services our communities rely on.'

Council earnestly hopes that the forthcoming Local Government 'settlement' will correct this situation but fears that the chaos and uncertainty surrounding Brexit risks undermining the economy and its ability to fund services.

(2) Notice of Motion No. 3 – REDUCING SINGLE USE PLASTIC (SUP) IN WIRRAL COUNCIL

Amendment

Proposed by Councillor Phill Brightmore

Seconded by Councillor Paul Stuart

Add the following:

Council also agrees to:

1. Incorporate the reduction of SUP use into Wirral Council's Waste Minimisation Strategy (regarding entire Borough, not just WBC).
2. Refer all of the recommendations in this motion to Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee with a view to advising Cabinet how they can most effectively be delivered.
3. Ask the Cabinet Member for Environment to write to the Conservative Minister for Environment, requesting that the reduction of SUP form part of any future national Waste Management Strategy.

(3) Notice of Motion No. 4 – DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Amendment

Proposed by Councillor David Burgess-Joyce

Seconded by Councillor Bruce Berry

Paragraph 2: Delete ' – and yet..... measures.'

Delete paragraphs 6, 7, 8, 9 and insert:

Domestic violence is a blight on our society and many victims suffer in silence for many years only to have their plight known to authorities when a tragedy occurs. This blight applies to both women and men alike.

The cross-government definition of domestic violence and abuse is now:

any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to:

- psychological
- physical
- sexual
- financial
- emotional

This significantly expands the types of reportable abuse and gives the police and courts wider opportunities to successfully control and prosecute offenders.

Wirral Council successfully bid for additional government funding for 2016. This funding boost was in addition to the original offer of additional funding of £40 million over a 4 years period to support victims of domestic violence, announced as part of its Spending Review. The funding was to help local authorities develop a number of different, innovative services.

As well as the additional funding, domestic abuse is a major priority for the government's Troubled Families programme. The focus on tackling domestic violence and abuse was increased in the new expanded programme.

The Conservative government announced a new £10 million government fund to help support refuges across the country and boost provision for vulnerable victims of domestic violence.

This built on steps taken by the government to end domestic violence, support victims and ensure offenders are prosecuted. These include:

- £40 million for Violence Against Women and Girls support services and specialist helplines
- new laws and powers - including a new domestic abuse offence to capture coercive and controlling behaviour, the criminalisation of forced marriage, and the introduction of new stalking laws
- the national roll-out of domestic violence protection orders and the domestic violence disclosure scheme

It is clear the government has made significant strides in trying to tackle an historically difficult offence to prosecute whilst encompassing some new family and cultural issues which needed addressing.

Council believes it is incumbent on the Leader to work with officers to research and develop new and innovative local strategies to support victims of domestic abuse and violence that are more than just temporary measures.

Council agrees to write to the Home Secretary once the Leader of the Council, his Cabinet and Officers have launched these local strategies to advise her of the outcomes for Wirral families that are the victims of domestic violence.