

Council – 17 March 2025

Amendments to Motions on Notice

The Council is requested to consider the following amendments submitted in accordance with Standing Order 13.3.

MOTION 2. GETTING THE NHS BACK ON ITS FEET

Conservative Group Amendment

Proposed by Councillor Simon Mountney
Seconded by Councillor Gary Bennett

Insert the following words after paragraph 7:

Council is, however, concerned that some of the initial decisions by the Labour Government will have a detrimental impact on the health and wellbeing of those who are most vulnerable, potentially causing more people to require NHS treatment, including:

- *The ill-considered removal of dementia diagnosis targets from the new NHS Operational Plan by the Secretary of State for Health, Wes Streeting*
- *The rushed announcement of cuts to personal independence payments, and freezing of other disability and health-related benefits, by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, Liz Kendall*

Council believes that impact assessments for these decisions should be published prior to implementation and with particular reference to likely additional demand for NHS services.

MOTION 2. GETTING THE NHS BACK ON ITS FEET

Liberal Democrat Group Amendment

Proposed by Councillor Helen Raymond
Seconded by Councillor Phil Gilchrist

Insert additional paragraphs after second paragraph:

Council fully recognises that the NHS is being urged to live within its budget and so must modernise and work more efficiently. In order to achieve this goal there needs to be a clear pathway in to and a role for Wirral's social care sector as without a social care sector which is adequately resourced for its role the NHS will continue to struggle to fulfil its role.

Taken from Road to recovery: the government's 2025 mandate to NHS England - GOV.UK published on January 30 2025, Council notes how Objective 5 makes it clear that 'reform ' is required to 'drive efficiency and productivity' and that this must..'

'ensure that ICBs and partner trusts exercise their functions with a view to managing within agreed plans, to deliver financial balance across their systems' ²

It is essential that Wirral's councillors have information on:

- the steps that might be put forward to address the known deficits and their impact; and*
- the timescales that NHS Cheshire and Merseyside might be working to*

Council observes how Wirral University Teaching Hospital was posted on NHS England as having an average of 121 patients in January as having a status of 'no criteria to reside'. It is vital to recognise that

- the reforms enable the NHS and social care to work together; and*
- the benefits of ensuring care in the community will enable the NHS to secure the improvements in inpatient care that residents and patients long for.*

² [Road to recovery: the government's 2025 mandate to NHS England - GOV.UK](#)

MOTION 4. ENSURING WIRRAL IS IN POLE POSITION FOR HOUSING INVESTMENT AND FUNDING

Labour Group Amendment

Proposed by Councillor Jean Robinson
Seconded by Councillor Paul Stuart

Delete the struck through words and add additional wording to paragraph 3:

Members may recall how a member question was asked at Council on 2nd December 2024 with reference to a public question raised at Economy Regeneration and Housing Committee in September 2024 (minute 102 refers) regarding the potential for a New Town status application. In response to this question, ~~it was Council notes disappointing to hear only that~~ **that** on the day of the deadline (13th December) ~~that~~ an application was not pursued. It is understood this decision was taken following advice from a Director at the Ministry for Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). **Advice from MHCLG confirmed that to apply for the new towns program would have detrimentally affected the borough's emerging local plan by adding a further 10,000 housing units in addition to the numbers set out by Government.** However, **we welcome the notice provided to Group Leaders setting out the reasons why the decision was taken and support the approach by the Interim Director of Regeneration and Place.** ~~by announcing at this late stage, members were denied any input to this far-reaching decision. An~~

application, even if unsuccessful, could have prejudiced the emerging local plan, further risking the greenbelt. would have signalled a willingness to engage and could have been adapted for future funding rounds.

Delete the struck through words and add additional wording to paragraph 5:

The Council also recognises that working collaboratively across parties is essential to achieve the best outcomes for Wirral residents, and it is vital that **Group Leaders and the Economy, Regeneration and Housing Committee are updated and members of all parties are** consulted at all stages of major funding bids. *, rather than being informed only after decisions have been made.* A shared, strategic approach will put Wirral in the best possible position to succeed.

Delete the struck through words from resolutions 1-3 and add the following:

1. Recognise the scale of the challenge in delivering **the Council's emerging local plan including much needed over 30,000** homes over the next 20 years and ensure that all plans align with the needs of Wirral's communities.
2. Requests that the **Interim** Director of Regeneration and Place commits to identifying and applying for ~~all~~-relevant government and grant funding opportunities to support regeneration and sustainable development, **which does not risk the Council's emerging local plan and our greenbelt.**
3. Requests that the **Interim** Director of Regeneration and Place ensures that members from all parties are engaged at an early stage in any major funding opportunities, bids or applications to promote transparency and cross-party collaboration.

MOTION 4. ENSURING WIRRAL IS IN POLE POSITION FOR HOUSING INVESTMENT AND FUNDING

Liberal Democrat Group Amendment

**Proposed by Councillor Stuart Kelly
Seconded by Councillor Allan Brame**

Delete the struck through words and add additional wording to paragraph 3:

Members may recall how a Member question was asked at Council on 2nd December 2024 with reference to a public question raised at Economy Regeneration and

Housing Committee in September 2024 (minute 102 refers) regarding the potential for a New Town status application. In response to this question, **Members heard how it was disappointing to hear only** on the day of the deadline (13th December) that an application was not pursued. It is understood this decision was taken following advice from a Director at the Ministry for Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) **whereby it was explained that if the bid were to be successful it would mean an additional 10,000 further homes in excess of what has been set out within the local plan.** ~~However, by announcing at this late stage, members were denied any input to this far-reaching decision. An application, even if unsuccessful, would have signalled a willingness to engage and could have been adapted for future funding rounds.~~

Delete the struck through words and add additional wording to paragraph 5:

The Council also recognises that working collaboratively across parties is essential to achieve the best outcomes for Wirral residents **whilst protecting the green belt**, and it is vital that members of all parties are consulted at all stages of major funding bids ~~rather than being informed only after decisions have been made.~~ A shared, strategic approach will put Wirral in the best possible position to succeed.

Add additional wording to resolution 2:

2. Requests that the Director of Regeneration and Place commits to identifying and applying for all relevant government and grant funding opportunities to support regeneration and sustainable development whilst **maintaining a brownfield first stance.**