

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 11
8 MARCH 2017	PUBLIC REPORT

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

The following notices of motion have been received in accordance with the Council's Standing Order 13.1:

1. Motion from Councillor Marco Cereste

The Motor Neurone Disease Association (MNDA) was chosen by the Mayor in May as one of his charities for his year in office. The Association is unique in its work, focusing on caring for those with motor neurone disease, researching and campaigning.

Following on the vastly successful 'Ice Bucket Challenge' funding has been put in place for the AMBRoSIA project. This project could bring us closer to faster diagnosis, earlier treatment, a better understanding of the types of motor neurone disease, better help for patients according to their needs, new drugs testing relating to the different causes for the disease, and work towards developing preventative treatments.

The risk of a person developing motor neurone disease in their lifetime is up to 1 in every 300. In Peterborough, this means that over 635 residents may be diagnosed with the disease during their lives. As such, the work the Association undertakes in Peterborough is invaluable.

The value of this work was highlighted earlier this year when Pam Wilkie, previous Cambridgeshire Branch Chairman, was presented with the Annual Volunteer Award from the Peterborough Council for Voluntary Services.

The Association has initiated a campaign 'Champion the Charter', which seeks for council's to adopt the Motor Neurone Disease Charter in order to help influence the lives of people living with MND in their communities. Adopting the Charter will help ensure that Peterborough City Council is better informed and understands the needs of people with MND.

The Council is therefore called upon to:

- 1) Acknowledge the work of the Motor Neurone Disease Association and to extend its thanks to the Association for providing support to the Peterborough residents, and their families, affected by the disease; and
- 2) Adopt the Motor Neurone Disease Charter comprising five points:
 - The right to an early diagnosis and information;
 - The right to access quality care and treatments;
 - The right to be treated as individuals and with dignity and respect;
 - The right to maximise their quality of life; and
 - Carers of people with MND have the right to be valued, respected, listened to and well-supported.

2. Motion from Councillor Chris Harper

That Council acknowledges the significant public concern around dog fouling in various areas of Peterborough which, apart from being an anti-social nuisance, is associated with various health risks (particularly in children) and blights our green open space that the city is so proud of.

That Council resolves to:

- 1) Ensure that the city council demonstrates its commitment to providing safer and cleaner communities by promoting responsible dog ownership to reduce the nuisance and health problems associated with dog fouling through an ongoing education and awareness raising programme.
- 2) Ensure that, where education is not effective, the city council's Prevention and Enforcement Officers fine and if necessary prosecute owners that fail to clear up after their dog under current legal powers by way of Fixed Penalty Notices under relevant legislation.
- 3) Investigate the use of Public Space Protection Orders to deal with anti-social behaviour associated with irresponsible dog ownership where there is proven dog fouling issue on green open space land or other dog fouling problem areas. The PSPO could provide enforcement officers with the ability to fine a dog owner not in possession of a bag to clear up after their dog, similar to PSPOs being introduced in some other council areas.

3. Motion from Councillor Darren Fower

Near the end of 2016, there were nearly 500 people on the Council's Housing waiting list, aged between 16-24.

81% of these were identified as British, nearly 30% identified themselves as Christian.

21% had been on the waiting list between 7 months to a year. 36% had been on the list for over a year.

At present the Government intends to withdraw Housing Benefit entitlement for 18-21 year olds from April 2017.

Some have argued that the proposed withdrawal of Housing Benefit (or what will be the housing costs element of Universal Credit, by 2017) will only have a limited effect in numerical and expenditure terms on those young people aged 18 to 21 years who are claiming it.

However, while the scope for applying the measure may be limited, the impact on the lives of those who will be affected is likely to be profound.

Therefore, this Council calls on the leader of the City Council to write a formal letter on behalf of this authority to the Prime Minister and Secretary for State, calling for an end to the Government's policy of removing the entitlement to housing benefit for 18-21 year olds.