

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 8 (i)
13 OCTOBER 2010	PUBLIC REPORT

## **NOTICES OF MOTION**

The following notices of motion have been received in accordance with Standing Order 11.1:

### **1. Motion from Councillor John Fox:**

That this Council recognises and commends the dedicated work carried out by the volunteers working in our local communities and requests that the Cabinet:

- (i) Introduces a 'Citizens' Award Scheme to formally recognise the contributions made by volunteers to local communities;
- (ii) Agrees that each Ward Councillor may nominate, with input from their local community, people to receive the award and that the final decision regarding the winner of the Award shall be taken by a specially constituted Panel; and
- (ii) Agrees that the Award should take the form of a specially minted medal, to be presented at a civic function held at the Town Hall on an annual basis, and that the Award shall be funded either privately, or through the use of a proportion of funding allocated to each ward through the Community Leadership Fund.

### **2. Motion from Councillor John Fox:**

That this Council:

- (i) Notes that the Government is debating the following changes to the rules regarding Disability Living Allowance (DLA):
  - a) A child under the age of 16 who is eligible for DLA shall stop receiving payments once they have spent 84 days, (which may be linked rather than consecutive) in hospital or other medical setting;
  - b) A child under the age of 16 who first becomes eligible for DLA whilst in hospital or another medical setting is not able to start receiving payments until they have been discharged home;
- (ii) Acknowledges that research shows that there are extra costs for a family when their child is in hospital or another medical setting, which includes loss of earnings, travel, parking, childcare for siblings and meals away from home and that the level of care provided by parents remains the same or increases when their child is hospitalised, with many families at their child's bedside 24/7.
- (iii) Acknowledges that many health professionals recognise that the presence of a parent is important for the child's wellbeing and can help their recovery and that parents are often experts in their child's care and sometimes required to continue carrying out the same, if not increased, level of care; and

- (iii) Requests the Leader of the Council to write to our Members of Parliament asking them to oppose any proposed actions that reduce the amount of DLA to parents with disabled children and actively lobby the Government to prevent the introduction of any such measures.

### **3. Motion from Councillor Goldspink**

That this Council:

- (i) Agrees that it was a mistake to abolish free bulky waste collections and introduce a £23 charge;
- (ii) Notes that around 12,000 bulky waste loads per annum that used to be collected by the Council are now potential fly tips which will have to be cleared up by the Council;
- (iii) Acknowledges the concerns of Members and public alike that fly tipping is on the increase, understands that an amber indicator for this performance area is inadequate for an environment city and agrees to call on Cabinet to abolish the charge immediately.

### **4. Motion from Councillor Fower**

That this Council:

- (i) Recognises that it is important to provide accurate and timely information to the press and public;
- (ii) Notes that local Councillors are likely to have a better understanding of many issues within their wards than Cabinet Members;
- (iii) Recognises that the current practice of quoting only Cabinet Members in press releases is archaic and undemocratic;
- (iv) Revises its current practice in the interests of openness and accountability, to require the Communications Team to contact the relevant local Councillor(s) for a one-line quote if a press release is to be issued that affects their ward.