

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 12
23 January 2019	PUBLIC REPORT

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

The following notice of motion has been received in accordance with the Council’s Standing Orders:

1. Motion from Councillor Holdich

The east west train service (Birmingham to Stansted) is a vital service for our city, whilst it is a good hourly service it has an appalling lack of capacity users of this will know it does not matter what time of day you use it , it is standing room only for most of your journey and the operator knows it because there is always an apology for only have two coaches and this has been the same for years .

This council resolves to ask the rail minister Andrew Jones MP to insists the train operator improves this situation without delay not only for the passenger experience but for the economy of our city on this vital East West connection through our city.

The council asks Mayor Palmer to raise this issue with the rail minister when he meets him next month.

2. Motion from Councillor Holdich

It is no secret that there is a shortage of housing not only in our city but nationally.

This council urges Government to work with the LGA and councils to give councils the power to enable the council to compel developments to be brought forward, either through the council tax process or the planning regime. This would have many advantages, it would bring competition to the market holding down prices, bring forward much needed affordable homes, create jobs, and give a boost to the construction industry.

3. Motion from Councillor Holdich

Permitted development is fine for a small extension to a home but not when it comes to converting office blocks into large residential units with no contribution towards infrastructure such as school places, health, affordable housing, etc.

This council urges the Government and the LGA to review this policy in the interest of fairness within the planning system and help with the demands placed on local councils to deliver service to these new communities welcome they may be.

4. Motion from Councillor Warren

Following a recent visit to a local secondary school where I spoke with a number of children about their school environment, I was made aware of some of the social pressures facing young adults particularly from online bullying and the associated pressures found at home and in school.

It seems that young adults are increasingly suffering from some form of mental disorder which if not addressed could lead to real mental illness. Recent NHS figures show one in eight people under age of 19 in England had a disorder in 2017.

Considering this fact, I would like to propose that the Council ask the Government to investigate:

- 1) Ways as to how it can improve the support on offer and explore the possibility of providing youth counsellors in schools.
- 2) The setting up of mental health workshops in schools specifically aimed at children, so they can talk freely about mental health issues and discuss their concerns and put forward their own ideas to reduce the risk of harm for all vulnerable young people.

5. Motion from Councillor Joseph

The council is preparing to launch its LATco in February. The plan is to transfer services, initially those currently undertaken by Amey, to the LATco with the aim of increasing their cost effectiveness and efficiency.

The LATco will, it is hoped, be able to improve the quality of services and also generate income for Peterborough City Council and thereby provide much need funds to support our vital but cash starved services.

The successful provision of these initial tranche of services by the LATco should pave the way for further services to be moved from outsourced providers to the LATco, thereby enabling the council to further improve efficiency.

The council recognises that:

- It is critical that the LATco be transparent and accountable.
- The Latco must operate with strict adherence to best working practices, providing staff with a safe, open & ethical working environment for all its staff.
- The Latco must be mindful of the wellbeing and development of its employees and stakeholders

The council therefore resolves to recommend to Cabinet:

Have the makeup of the board of directors to be a broad representation of stakeholders. To achieve this, we feel that it would be appropriate that the board includes the following as a minimum:

- Representatives from the relevant trade unions
- A minimum of 2 staff members
- Cross party representation from councillors

In this way we feel that the LATCO will be open, transparent and accountable and in touch with the needs and interests of those it represents.

6. Motion from Councillor Shaz Nawaz

Childhood obesity is a global concern: Here in the UK, a more sedentary lifestyle combined with a diet high in processed foods and sugary drinks has become the norm for many of our children.

The long-term effects childhood obesity includes an increased risk of life-limiting diseases such as diabetes, heart disease and certain cancers such as breast and colon. Research has shown that obese children are twice as likely to grow into obese adults.

Obesity can reduce life expectancy by 10 years. In fact, it has been said, this generation of parents will be the first to outlive their children.

Is this life limiting future one which we want for our children?

The council recognises that:

In its role as a corporate parent it has a duty of care to those it represents. And part of that role is the protection of children.

- We need to support educational programmes which encourage better diet and healthier lifestyles
- Encourage healthier eating campaigns in schools and work places
- Ensure adequate access to literature and support for those wanting to instigate those changes

The council therefore resolves to:

- Support the national Fizz Free February Campaign in which we will encourage all residents but especially children to give up fizzy drinks for 28 days
- Have links on our social media platforms where interested parties can get more literature and advice
- Use social media to get the message across
- Press release to launch the campaign

We are all appalled, & quite rightly so, when we hear of children going hungry & suffering the effects of malnutrition through lack of food, here in the UK, in the 21st century. Obesity is also often caused by malnutrition processed food high in fat, salt and sugar washed down with sugary drinks. Let's make Fizz Free February an additional step in working towards a solution to this problem.

7. Motion from Councillor Hogg

Council notes that:

The Chairman of the Employment Committee has given apologies for all three meetings for 2018, and that his last attendance at an Employment Committee was on 31/10/17.

Council further notes that:

The Chairman of the Employment Committee has been paid a Special Responsibility Allowance for this period.

Council resolves to:

Refer this matter to the Constitution and Ethics Committee to consider if Council Standing orders should be amended to remove Chairman of committees due to poor attendance

Council further resolves to:

Ask the Constitution and Ethics Committee to also consider if Council Standing orders should be amended to require the return of Special Responsibility Allowances for the periods of non-attendance, and, if appropriate, refer to the Independent Remuneration Panel for consideration, as per the Council's required process.

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