

COUNCIL MEETING 7 DECEMBER 2022

ALTERATION TO THE MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR SKIBSTED

Alteration to be moved as follows:

“This Council notes that:

- We are experiencing the highest inflation in 40 years. Energy is costing more, directly threatening household budgets and the viability of local businesses.
- Historical evidence suggests that increases in food poverty and fuel poverty will lead directly to increased health problems and winter deaths.
- Poor insulation, inefficient heating and the effects of climate change are intensifying the impact of energy prices, increasing pressures on families and businesses, and there are insufficient skills in the city and East of England to deliver on these issues.
- As the cost-of-living increases, people and businesses are less able to finance adaptations to improve energy efficiency and to prepare for extreme weather events.
- More families are in need of help. Yet steeply increasing inflation means this Council’s ability to mitigate impacts and provide essential services is increasingly challenging.
- As the cost-of-living increases and the effects of climate change take hold, our residents also face the reduction of local bus routes. Many families are now challenged with finding alternative transport to work and school. This places added strain on family finances, increases carbon emissions and drives up air pollution.

The Council agrees to:

- 1. Recognise that the Cost of Living and Climate Crisis are interlinked and jointly require attention to ensure the wellbeing of local people and businesses in Peterborough.**
- 2. Make decisions on the budget and major policies that, wherever possible, contribute to environmental and social benefits across the Peterborough area.**
- 3. Advocate to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for more robust, affordable public transport that connects employees with work, links students to education and reduces carbon emissions.**
- 4. Continue and expand the work with social landlords operating in the Peterborough City Council area to review the energy efficiency of their housing stock, recognising that poor insulation and inefficient heating are key factors in the rising cost of living.**

5. Request that the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee revisit this motion in 12 months as part of its work programme to look at targets on climate considerations in budget proposals as well as retro-fitting of social housing for energy efficiency gains via a report from officers.

6. ~~Request~~ That the Leader of the Council asks our local MP's to write to the Prime Minister, our local MPs and the relevant government ministers to call for:
 - Increased financial support for residents, with most support provided to low-income households.
 - More funding for small and medium local businesses, helping them manage the challenge of increasing energy costs and rising inflation.
 - A more ambitious nationwide commitment to fund improvements in the energy efficiency of homes, resulting in energy bill reductions and environmental benefits.
 - Increased grant opportunities for community groups, housing providers and public sector partners to improve energy efficiency in their buildings.
 - Insulation schemes and renewable energy generation programmes funded by fossil fuel profits.”