

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM 7(ii)
12 OCTOBER 2011	PUBLIC REPORT

NOTICES OF MOTION

The following notice of motion has been received in accordance with Standing Order 15.2:

1. Motion from Councillor Murphy:

That this Council:

1. Shares the concerns of many including the local MP that the cost of the Private Finance Initiative for Peterborough Hospital is having a detrimental impact on the health and wellbeing of local residents particularly pensioners as the resources available to provide health services locally are reduced to pay for this PFI;
2. Recognises that the impact on local jobs, services, primary health care and adult social care are of particular concern and have been raised locally by councillors, practitioners, residents and trades unionists;
3. Recognises that the percentage returns expected on PFI are well in excess of the base rate which has been at a record low for several years and we support those who have campaigned for the government to review the terms of this PFI; and
4. Calls upon the government to seek renegotiation of these excessive payment rates in order that public funds can be better used to provide hospital, primary care and adult health services and protect jobs here in Peterborough.

2. Motion from Councillor Murphy

That this Council:

1. Notes that the current growth strategy is to build thousand of new homes noting the high number of privately rented dwellings that exist in some areas of Peterborough and the relatively high rent allowances paid for some of these dwellings;
2. Believes that more affordable homes are desirable and that the government is rightly concerned about the high level of costs of the current housing benefit framework;
3. Believes that an increase in affordable homes built by councils, co operatives and housing associations can contribute to a reduction in the overall cost of rent allowances (housing benefit) to the exchequer and the taxpayer; and
4. Calls on the government to consider Peterborough as a pilot for the implementation of a fair rents policy and provide for legislation enabling fair rents to be set within the area whereby supply and demand are considered to be equal in order to reduce the overall cost of rent to residents and the taxpayer.

3. Motion from Councillor Murphy

That this Council:

1. Notes the problems of obstruction and damage caused by inappropriate parking on pavements and verges as this not only causes damage that is expensive to put right but may obstruct pedestrians and the disabled;
2. Believes that the problems of inconsiderate parking should be mitigated by more vigorous action by the authorities and the council;
3. Should take action to improve the situation and reduce the level of obstruction and damage caused to pavements and verges; and
4. Commits to providing additional parking spaces where appropriate and taking enforcement action against offenders particularly where there is obstruction to pavements and cycle routes as a priority.

4. Motion from Councillor Murphy

That this Council:

1. Recognises the current challenging financial circumstances it is facing and notes the considerable amount of money spent on member's allowances and expenses, with a high number of cabinet members and special responsibility allowances being paid to councillors in what is a relatively small unitary authority;
2. Recognises that in view of the need for public services to be efficient and economic, bearing in mind the reduction and scope of responsibilities carried out by Peterborough City Council since the introduction of expenses and payments following local government reorganisation, it will seek an immediate reduction in the number of members of the administration receiving additional allowances and the amount being spent on these allowances;
3. Resolves to reduce expenditure this financial year by £80,000 by reducing payments to the council leader, cutting the number of cabinet members and special advisers and reducing the amount paid to these council members' allowances; and
4. Will seek a further reduction to achieve a budget saving of £170,000 next year.

5. Motion from Councillor Sandford

Waste Collections

That this Council:

1. Welcomes the Government's allocation of an additional £250 million of funds for waste collections and recycling but regrets that the funding is only available to councils who agree to have weekly collections of residual waste;
2. Notes that Peterborough City Council has one of the highest percentage recycling rates for domestic waste, that the Council's Waste 2020 strategy commits us to achieving a recycling rate of 65% and that failure to achieve this target is likely to be detrimental to the Council's finances by way of increased liability to landfill tax; and
3. Requests that the Cabinet do not agree to any changes in bin collection regimes without first carrying out a full assessment of the financial and environmental consequences of such a change and that this should be done in consultation with the Environment Capital Scrutiny Committee.

6. Motion from Councillor Sandford

Supporting Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy in Peterborough

That this Council:

1. Welcomes the Coalition Government's commitment to energy conservation through the Green Deal which is to be introduced in 2012 and will give every household in the country the opportunity to improve the energy efficiency of their home through a package of insulation measures with no up front cost for the resident;
2. Requests the Cabinet and senior council officers to engage positively with the Department for Energy and Climate Change on implementation of the Green Deal to ensure that residents in Peterborough gain maximum benefit from it at the earliest possible time;
3. Welcomes the Coalition Government's commitment to generating at least 15% of the UK's energy from renewable sources by 2020 and in particular incentives available for individual householders to install small scale renewables such as solar PV, wind and biomass, through feed in tariffs and the Renewable Heat Incentive; and
4. Requests that the cabinet and senior council officers work constructively with the Government, social landlords, private developers and others to bring about a rapid and sustained increase in renewable energy generation in Peterborough, subject to the usual planning processes, in order to further the city's aspiration to become the Environment Capital of the UK.

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