

COUNCIL 7 NOVEMBER 2019

NOTICES OF MOTION

Notices of Motion Received

- 1. The Head of Legal and Democratic Services reports that he has received the following 5 Notices of Motion. The Constitution provides that any submitted motion must be moved and seconded at the meeting. Otherwise, unless postponed with the consent of the Council, it will be treated as withdrawn.
- 2. If a motion is in relation to the exercise of an executive function it will be referred to the Cabinet for decision (if applicable this will be indicated below). Otherwise the Council may decide itself to determine the Motion, or refer it to the Cabinet or another appropriate Committee for advice before determining it at the next available meeting.

Notice of Motion 1 – Support for Entrepreneurs and Innovators in Worcestershire

- 1. This motion is not in relation to the exercise of an executive function and the Council may decide to determine the Motion.
- 2. Notice of Motion standing in the names of Mr G R Brookes, Mr R J Morris, Mr M J Hart, Dr K A Pollock, and Ms R Vale:

"Whether in the emergence of new technologies, the fresh availability of natural resources or of changes in society, change provides a catalyst for new ideas to emerge. Properly acted on and developed, new ideas can generate new businesses providing employment, generating income for this Council to support our infrastructure, and provide happier and more fulfilled lives for many of our residents.

As an example, after a gap of one hundred years, the recent availability of Droitwich Brine, a natural resource laid down over 200 million years ago, and the strongest natural saltwater known, has prompted the emergence of new businesses and products across the region, resulting in increased employment. Further individuals and groups are presently coming forward, seeing opportunities to develop tourism in Worcestershire by developing the "Staycation" industry as concerns rise at the cost in climate terms of extensive air travel.

History shows us that much of the wealth Britain has enjoyed has been generated as a result of lateral thinking by individuals and small companies. Successful small companies can grow to service world markets, not only

generating wealth to support our vital services such as the NHS, but also in many cases improving the lives of people far removed from our county.

This Council calls on all its members to take a positive approach whenever and wherever possible and appropriate to support and encourage Entrepreneurs and Innovators in Worcestershire to develop new products and services to enhance our economy."

Notice of Motion 2 – The 'GET SAFE' Initiative – safeguarding young people

- 3. This motion is not in relation to the exercise of an executive function and the Council may decide to determine the Motion.
- 4. Notice of Motion standing in the names of Mr A D Kent, Mr M J Hart, Mr A C Roberts, Ms K J May, and Mrs L C Hodgson:

"Vulnerable children and young people have always faced danger but in modern times these risks come in new forms under the heading 'criminal exploitation'.

This includes gang-related activity including county lines, sexual exploitation, trafficking, modern day slavery, absent and missing children, forced marriage, honour-based violence and female genital mutilation. Sadly, all can be part of modern life, even in Worcestershire.

The Worcestershire multi-agency initiative 'GET SAFE', launched in June this year, has been created to tackle criminal exploitation. It aims to protect children and young people up to the age of 25 years. The GET SAFE Partnership is committed to supporting victims and their families.

County councillors are uniquely positioned to see that the 'GET SAFE' Strategy is shared by every part of the local government family (including district and parish/town councils).

This motion calls on all county councillors to commit to safeguarding young people against the criminal exploitation, by championing the 'GET SAFE' initiative in their divisions, and using their good offices to see that district and parish/town councillors in their divisions are well informed about the initiative."

Notice of Motion 3 - Employment agencies

- 5. This motion is not in relation to the exercise of an executive function and the Council may decide to determine the Motion.
- 6. Notice of Motion standing in the names of Mr R C Lunn, Mr L C R Mallett, Mr P Denham and Mr P M McDonald:

"Council is concerned about a recent disclosure that it paid £823.00 per day since July 2017 for one agency worker. To secure value for money and to protect Worcestershire from poor reputational risk, Council requests the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board to establish an urgent review into the use of

employment agencies by the County Council. To uncover total spend, assess value for money and to recommend any new methods of engagement".

Notice of Motion 4 - Royal Mail and Post Office Services

- 7. This motion is not in relation to the exercise of an executive function and the Council may decide to determine the Motion.
- 8. Notice of Motion standing in the names of Mr R C Lunn, Mr L C R Mallett, Mr P Denham and Mr P M McDonald:

"Council has the power to act as champion of the consumer by investigating the Post Office and the Royal Mail and by scrutinising the provision of their services within the county. Council is concerned by the number of recent Post Office closures in the county and asks the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board to consider a scrutiny exercise into the services provided by both the Royal Mail and the Post Office".

Notice of Motion 5 - Proposals for Voter ID

- 9. This motion is not in relation to the exercise of an executive function and the Council may decide to determine the Motion.
- 10. Notice of Motion standing in the names of Mrs E B Tucker, Mr M E Jenkins, Mr T A L Wells Mrs F M Oborski and Prof J W Raine:

"Council recognises that the low voter turnout is a major concern at both local and national elections which could affect public confidence in the discharge of our statutory duties to the public and undermine the democratic mandate of our Worcestershire county councillors.

Council therefore regrets that the proposals for Voter ID as unveiled in the Queen's Speech are likely to further depress voter turnout amongst the poorest and most vulnerable in society who are least likely to have Passports or Photo Driving Licences.

Council is concerned that this will further reduce the broad democratic mandate for its 57 councillors.

Council therefore requests our Worcestershire MPs to press government to reconsider the side effects of this proposed new policy."

Contact Points

County Council Contact Points
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Specific Contact Points for this report Simon Lewis, Committee Officer

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Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report.