

15 January 2015

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice of Motion 1 – Funding for Rape/Sexual Abuse Counselling

1. The Head of Legal and Democratic Services reports that he has received the following four 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 Otherwise, unless postponed with the consent of the Council, it will be treated as withdrawn.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.

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 Mrs E B Tucker, Prof. J Raine, Mrs S Askin, Mrs F M Oborski, Mr T A L Wells, Mr M E Jenkins, Ms M A Rayner and Ms R E Jenkins:

"Council notes that the Police and Crime Commissioner's funding for Independent Rape/Sexual Abuse Counselling ends in March 2015 and that no local authority or Health Service provision exists to fill that gap.

Furthermore Council notes that whilst 1 in 20 young people suffer sexual abuse, and that locally the majority of such cases arise within the family and are not part of grooming by external gangs, there is no service dedicated to providing counselling for these very vulnerable young people. Victims are often faced with a three-month wait for an initial Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service appointment, with possible waits of a further 18 months for specialist services.

Noting that a Specialist Counselling Service for young people aged 11 – 21 could be provided for £25,000 per year, Council urgently requests Cabinet Members with Responsibility to seek funding for such a service in the Financial Year 2015/2016."

Notice of Motion 2 – Rail fares and ticketing

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 Ms P Agar, Mr G J Vickery, Mr P M McDonald, Mr R M Udall, Mr C J Bloore, Mr A Fry, Mr P Denham and Mr R C Lunn:

"This Council is concerned about the recent increase in the cost of season tickets and fares for trains leaving Worcestershire stations. With an ever increasing number of commuters from across the county using rail to get to work, college or university the increase in fares is having a crippling impact and is significantly adding to the cost of living crisis for many hardworking Worcestershire families.

Council believes the Government should ease the pressure on fare payers by capping annual fare rises on every route, simplifying fare structures and creating a new legal right to the cheapest ticket. Furthermore, Council requests that the Leader calls for improvements and changes which would enable local authorities to be able to co-ordinate services, oversee stations and ensure customer satisfaction across the network, and that he authorises the Chief Executive to write to local Members of Parliament to seek their support."

Notice of Motion 3 – Pressure on hospitals

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 G J Vickery, Mr R C Lunn, Mr C J Bloore, Mr A Fry, Mr P M McDonald, Mr R M Udall, Mr P Denham and Ms P Agar:

"Increasing numbers of very frail, elderly people are ending up in Accident and Emergency (A&E) departments and then becoming trapped in hospital because the care they need to be discharged is not available, due to loss of social care capacity. This comes on top of pressures arising from the fact that people are finding it harder to see a GP, and pressures within the NHS from the shortage of nurses and GPs.

This is part of the reason for the acute problems in hospital A&E departments which can be seen across the country and which include Worcestershire Acute Hospitals failing

to hit its target of seeing 95% of A&E patients within 4 hours.

On 6 January the Department of Health issued an urgent request for information so that the Secretary of State could write to council chief executives about delayed transfers of care to social care. The recipients were given just four hours to respond.

Due to financial pressures the council has limited ability to receive and enact new instructions from the Department of Health so late in the day. If the Council is to play a constructive part in easing the pressure on hospitals it is vital that councils have the opportunity for a direct dialogue with Government.

Given the rapidly deteriorating position in Worcestershire and across the country, this council requests the Leader to support the call by Rt. Hon. Andy Burnham MP, the shadow Secretary of State for Health, for an urgent cross-party summit, including representatives from local government, the police, fire and ambulance services, as well as emergency care and other NHS professionals, to assess the situation and put in place a co-ordinated plan to ensure patient safety and support the performance of A&E departments across England and minimise any avoidable further major incidents being declared."

Notice of Motion 4 – Council expenditure

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 Mr P M McDonald, Mr G J Vickery, Mr A Fry, Ms P Agar, Mr P Denham and Ms P A Hill:

"In these times of austerity, with hardworking families finding it hard to make ends meet and volunteers being called to man the pumps of local services to the detriment of hardworking employees who have now lost their jobs and residents losing services, this Council managed to spend £150,261 on sandwiches and beverages for its officers and guests.

We therefore call upon the OSPB to investigate just how this astonishing amount of money could be spent this way and not on much needed services."

Contact Points

County Council Contact Points

Worcester (01905) 763763, Kidderminster (01562) 822511
or Minicom: Worcester (01905) 766399

Specific Contact Points for this Report

John Higginbotham, Committee and Appellate 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.