COUNCIL 12 NOVEMBER 2015

NOTICES OF MOTION

Notices of Motion Received

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 Otherwise, unless postponed with the consent of the Council, it will be treated as withdrawn.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.

Notice of Motion 1 – Commissioning services

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 P Denham, Mr R C Lunn, Mr P M McDonald and Mr R M Udall:

"This Council awarded a contract to Babcock International to provide support services, including administration and specialist staff for pupils with disabilities and early years schooling.

391 workers were transferred into Babcock's employment. The Company now wants to remove 104 of them.

The Cabinet denied potential job losses throughout the process but it has recently become known that it was well aware that job losses were likely. Council condemns this cynical and disgraceful way in which members, employees and their unions have been misled.

Council regrets the alarm and distress caused to parents of children with special needs who are worried that the level of support for their children at school, and hence their educational achievement, are likely to deteriorate as a direct result of employing fewer support workers.

Council appreciates the valuable work our former employees have done to help our children, the schools and this Council. These loyal and skilled workers must not be abandoned by us. The reputation of this Council has been put at risk and it is likely that the morale of our remaining workforce will be damaged.

Council believes that the lack of transparency and failure of the administration to adequately involve other members has exacerbated this situation.

Therefore Council calls upon the Cabinet Member responsible to apologise to the workers at risk of redundancy and account for his actions and conduct."

Notice of Motion 2 – Number 45 Bus Service

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 P M McDonald, Mr J Baker, Mr R M Udall and Mr C J Bloore:

"In light of the actions of Bromsgrove MP Sajid Javid leading to the removal of the number 45 bus service in Cofton Hackett and the consequences of this which has led to many residents' employment now being in jeopardy because of lack of transport.

In addition, young people are unable to attend their youth centres and many senior citizens and residents in general can no longer access places they once could.

We therefore call upon the Bromsgrove MP Sajid Javid to apologise for the inconvenience caused local residents and join in calling for the reinstatement of the service."

Notice of Motion 3 – Trade Unions

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

"This Council recognises the positive contribution that trade unions and trade union members make in our workplaces. This Council values the constructive relationship that we have with our trade unions and we recognise their commitment, and the commitment of all our staff, to the delivery of good quality public services.

This Council notes with concern the Trade Union Bill which is currently being proposed by the Government and which would affect this Council's relationship with our trade unions and our workforce as a whole.

This Council is clear that facility time, negotiated and agreed by us and our trade unions to suit our own specific needs, has a valuable role to play in the creation of good quality and responsive local services.

This Council is happy with the arrangements we currently have in place for deducting trade union membership subscriptions through our payroll. We see this as an important part of our positive industrial relations and a cheap and easy to administer system that supports our staff.

This Council further supports the need to promote good industrial relations and will maintain its autonomy with regard to facility time and the continuing use of check-off."

Notice of Motion 4 – Staff Transfers

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, Mrs S Askin, Mr M E Jenkins, Mrs F M Oborski and Prof. J W Raine:

"This Council values its employees and respects the commitment and flexibility they have contributed to the work of the Council over recent difficult years of change.

We recognize that constant change, modernising the way we serve residents, increased demand and squeezed budgets, changes in management structures and expectations, and the drive towards commissioning services from outside traditional council structures, have created a most challenging working environment. Our staff have coped with all this and continued their work to serve the best interests of Worcestershire residents. We are grateful.

The Council deeply regrets the unexpected redundancies proposed among staff so recently TUPEd across to Babcocks Prime. Our employees are entitled to expect transparency from us about their future and its risks when the Council enters into such contracts.

Council therefore urges that, in any further transfer of staff to commissioned service deliverers, Transition Plans will be agreed and signed off by both parties before final contracts are signed".

Contact Points

<u>County Council Contact Points</u> County Council: 01905 763763 Worcestershire Hub: 01905 765765 Email: <u>worcestershirehub@worcestershire.gov.uk</u>

<u>Specific Contact Points for this report</u> John Higginbotham, Committee and Appellate Officer Tel: 01905 766607 Email: jhigginbotham@worcestershire.gov.uk

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.