

Item 15 - Update on Motions agreed by the Council – 22 October 2014

Date	From	Motion	Status	Accountable Director
27/11/13	Cllr B. Rice	<p>In May Newcastle City Council passed a declaration setting out their commitment to tackle the harm smoking causes their communities. This has become known as the Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control and been endorsed by, among others, The Public Health Minister, Chief Medical Officer and Public Health England.</p> <p>This Council will sign up to the Declaration and commit to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce smoking prevalence and health inequalities • Develop plans with partners and local communities • Participate in local and regional networks • Support Government action at national level • Protect tobacco control work from the commercial and vested interests of the tobacco industry • Monitor the progress of our plans • Join the Smokefree Action Coalition. 	<p>Thurrock Council is now listed as a signatory to the Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control on the Smokefree Action website:</p> <p>http://www.smokefreeaction.org.uk/declaration</p> <p>A paper is being considered on this topic by the Thurrock Health and Wellbeing Board on 9th January.</p> <p>March Update – The Thurrock Tobacco control strategy will come back to the HWB Board in May.</p> <p>July Update – this was deferred from the May HWB Board meeting and will come back to the September meeting.</p> <p>Thurrock CCG have also agreed to sign up to the declaration.</p> <p>September update – a stakeholder workshop is booked for 1 October to inform the Tobacco Control strategy.</p> <p>Plans to localise the annual ‘Stoptober’ campaign will be put into action from the launch on 9 September targeting routine and manual workers.</p> <p>October update – The CCG are to sign up to the NHS’s version of the Tobacco Declaration.</p> <p>The Tobacco Workshop preparation is being finalised and we have a prestigious keynote speaker from Action on Smoking and Health (ASH).</p> <p>The Stoptober campaign that Public Health has been</p>	Roger Harris

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			<p>promoting in partnership with our stop smoking service provider Vitality has been very well received by the public with a number of members of the public signing up via Vitality for the 28-day quit challenge.</p>	
27/11/13	Cllr Anderson	<p>That Thurrock Council will work pro-actively with local community groups to create a comprehensive list of Assets of Community Value in Thurrock, which would then be protected by the Community Right to Buy provisions of the Localism Act.</p>	<p>Thurrock Council is a member of the ACE Partnership with libraries, Thurrock Adult College, engage and Thurrock CVS. The ACE Partnership organises free training for community groups and residents on issues relating to empowerment and voluntary action. The Partnership is negotiating training dates with Locality, a national organisation commissioned by the government to support the implementation of community rights. This will provide an opportunity to promote the Community Right to Bid and to encourage nominations to the Assets of Community Value.</p> <p>All forms for nominating Assets of Community Value are available on the Council website.</p> <p>Training by Locality will be included in the next ACE programme May – July 2014. Targeted promotion will highlight Thurrock's Community Right to Bid process and how to make a nomination. Staff in the Council and voluntary sector supporting community development will promote the training and take a pro active role in encouraging residents to understand the rights and use the processes in place.</p> <p>Locality delivered a workshop on Community Rights at the Civic Office June 2014. Over 50 people attended including councillors, officers and community members. The session was very informative and we are confident this will support a wider understanding of the community rights in Thurrock. Sessions will be considered in neighbourhoods via the ACE Training programme.</p>	Steve Cox

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			October '14 – No further update.	
27/11/13	Cllr Gledhill	The Council request that a review be carried out of the implementation of the Veteran's Charter and publish the results before its second anniversary (March 2014), to ensure that the commitment we signed up to is working in Thurrock.	<p>A review will be carried out and published within the requested time frame.</p> <p>March 2014 – 12 responses were received to inform the review. A report has been sent to those who responded and added to the Council website. A press release will communicate this to a wider audience.</p> <p>The review concluded that although the Veterans' Charter has supported some individual cases, more could be done to raise awareness and promote the Charter. This will be achieved through staff training and an event with service organisations to promote awareness about the Charter, and support Veterans use the charter effectively. The event will provide an opportunity to consider other possible actions that either the Council or partners could take to promote the Veterans Charter.</p> <p>In response to the review an event will be held 15 July to promote the Charter and Community Covenant. The event will incorporate a drop in for veterans and serving personnel and a workshop with partners to consider how we can work in partnership to join up support in the future. Also, talks will be held to support awareness raising of the issues faced by veterans returning to civilian life. This information will be developed into a training session for staff in future months.</p> <p>October '14 – Around 30 people attended a workshop in July to consider the Veterans' Charter and Community Covenant. It was agreed that an independent organisation should be encouraged to take forward a partnership approach to develop work in this area. A report on the event is to be shared with those who</p>	Steve Cox

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			attended with a request for organisations interested in leading on this work to come forward.	
22/01/14	Cllr Hebb	<p>Thurrock Council seeks to address the following concerns of residents and businesses in Stanford-le-Hope following their recent experience of significant flooding underneath the railway line in Wharf Road, and formally requests that DP World and Network Rail engage in a process to manage the following issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General accessibility and emergency plans to be looked at to minimise the isolation of residents and businesses, with particular regard to emergency services, school and workplace commutes etc. 2. Free and direct access be re-established to the pumping plant for Thurrock Council to complete any required works as quickly as possible. 	<p>This is a long standing issue that has proved difficult to progress as the result of the intransigence of other parties. Due to the extreme weather conditions experienced over recent weeks, all available resources have been allocated to deal with immediate flooding issues in other locations. We remain committed to resolve this difficulty and meetings are being arranged to discuss and negotiate a satisfactory solution.</p> <p>New controls fitted to the system since the New Year has increased the reliability of the pumping station.</p> <p>Discussions are on-going with Network Rail in regard to the provision of a secure access route to the pumping station and the maintenance necessary for the outfall ditch flowing to Mucking Creek.</p> <p>Costs are currently being obtained for a remote monitoring system that will be installed to the control equipment of this pumping station.</p>	David Bull
22/01/14	Cllr Halden	Thurrock Council objects to any bid for a road/bridge connecting Canvey and East Thurrock, and pledges to use any appropriate resources to challenge this.	<p>Castle Point Council recently consulted on the link road through their Local Plan consultation. This Council formally objected to this proposal. We also asked Thurrock residents to object to the proposal through the Castle Point website.</p> <p>This Council's formal response to the Local Plan consultation (including objection to the link road) was submitted before the end of the extended closing date of 28th March 2014.</p> <p>Currently there are no further issues.</p>	David Bull

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22/01/14	Cllr Gaywood	<p>In recognition of the wonderful support and much needed food provided by Thurrock Foodbank to our families and residents in need, particularly over the Christmas period, this Council resolves to write to the Thurrock Foodbank to thank and congratulate them.</p> <p>Furthermore, Thurrock Council calls upon Government to reconsider its decision to refuse the £22 million European Union funding available to help with the costs of running UK food banks.</p>	The food bank continue their good work in Thurrock.	Barbara Brownlee
26/02/14	Cllr Hipsey	<p>Recently national publicity has demonstrated the Treetops school is among the very best schools in the country for children with special needs, (autism). Therefore, council resolves to congratulate the school on its continued fantastic work with our children and young people.</p>	A letter has been sent to Treetops school to congratulate the staff for their fantastic work with Thurrock's children and young people.	Carmel Littleton
26/03/14	Cllr Hipsey	<p>This elected chamber condemns the acts of indecent exposure where individuals are using the public highway to relieve themselves, which is starting become a regular occurrence seen along major trunk routes within Thurrock's boundary. Council also request the urgent assistance of Essex Police to attempt to clamp down on this ignorant disgusting behaviour.</p>	<p>This has been passed to Essex Police, who have responded as follows:</p> <p>Urinating in public is disgraceful behaviour, all cases that are received by Council staff are reported to the Police for further action. The Police Chief inspector is aware of the councillors concerns and has committed to act accordingly.</p>	Lucy Magill
26/03/14	Cllr Ojetola	<p>The Thurrock Business Awards on Friday 14 March was a unique occasion in Thurrock as numerous businesses were commended for their resilience for surviving the difficulties in the economy.</p> <p>This Council hereby delightfully congratulates all businesses on their achievements whether they won or were finalists.</p>	No update required.	Graham Farrant

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26/03/14	Cllr Anderson	This council would like to put on record its thanks to those Members who are standing down at the 2014 local elections for their service to Thurrock during their time in office.	No update required.	Graham Farrant
23/07/14	Cllr J Kent	<p>This council believes that work should pay and therefore opposes the introduction of schemes which force job seekers into unpaid work or face losing their benefits – schemes known popularly as workfare.</p> <p>This council is concerned that there is no evidence workfare assists job seekers in finding work and in fact working a 30-hour week makes that more difficult; that workfare is replacing paid work; and that workfare stigmatises benefits claimants and locks them further into poverty.</p> <p>This council therefore pledges not to use any workfare placements and also calls for our partners and contractors not to use the schemes.</p>	<p>In accordance with the pledge the council is not using workfare placements.</p> <p>A letter is being sent to partners and contractors to highlight the pledge and seek their co-operation.</p> <p>The Council has given information via the procurement process for all contractors (existing and potential) on the council's position re fair pay. We are committed to ensuring this is done on an ongoing basis that respective contractors will be aware of.</p>	Graham Farrant / Jackie Hinchliffe
23/07/14	Cllr C Kent	This council believes that the changes proposed to Grays Fire Station are detrimental to the safety of the public and firefighters and we call on the Chief Fire Officer to reconsider them in light of new information brought to our attention by the Fire Brigades Union highlighting Thurrock as an area of extremely high risk.	<p>A letter was sent to the Chief Fire Officer and Deputy Chief Fire Officer on 8 July 2014 and a response was received on 22 August 2014.</p> <p>In the absence of the Chief Fire Officer, the Deputy Chief Fire Officer acknowledged that the motion had been considered by Members of the Fire Authority.</p> <p>Furthermore the Deputy Chief Fire Officer recognised the invitation to attend a meeting of Council and confirmed that he was happy to meet with Thurrock Councillors to explore the rationale for the recent decision of Essex Fire Authority and the impact of the Fire and Rescue Service on Thurrock. He invited a group of Councillors that included both Councillors</p>	Graham Farrant / Lucy Magill

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			<p>nominated to Essex Fire Authority, the Leaders of each Political Group, the Leader of the Council and the Mayor of Thurrock to a briefing at Service Headquarters at Kelvedon Park, Witham, in order to discuss this matter further.</p> <p>A copy of the letter from the Deputy Chief Fire Officer that was sent to the Mayor of Thurrock was copied to Councillors Cathy Kent and Tom Kelly in their position of nominated Councillors to the Essex Fire Authority.</p>	
23/07/14	Cllr Hebb	<p>On Thursday 10th July 2014, employees in the public sector took strike action in respect of pay, which caused disruption to the tax-paying public.</p> <p>With a number of local authorities being hit with strike action, and to free up funds to allow Thurrock to negotiate and determine salary increases locally, we call on the Chief Executive, as part of the current budget process, to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask Senior Officers to volunteer a salary reduction of 5% in annual salaries, which had approval by members back in 2010. 2. Undertake a review of all indirect or direct funding to trade-union representatives in the council – moving to a volunteer-based representative-model (like the private sector). 	The Chief Executive has written to all Members following consultation with the Leadership Group.	Graham Farrant
23/07/14	Cllr Halden	While acknowledging the justifiably protected nature of information in child social care, Council expresses concern in regards to comments made at the last meeting of the corporate parenting committee, in regards to removing financial information and reports from members for their scrutiny. Council reaffirms its commitment to the principles of corporate parenting in terms of making	The contents of the information provided to the Corporate Parenting Committee have been reviewed by the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services, the Shadow Portfolio Holder, the Director of Children's Services and Senior Officers in Democratic services. All agree that there is a need and desire for transparency around financial matters whilst protecting the individual details of children and young people. Reports have been	Carmel Littleton

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		the service budget as transparent and accountable to members as possible via appropriate reports.	prepared with this fine balance in mind. Members will have the opportunity for further discussion in a pre-meeting of the committee.	
10/09/14	Cllr Tolson	Thurrock Council calls upon government to make the display of Food Hygiene Rating Scheme Certificates compulsory in England as it currently is in Wales.	Letter drafted and sent by Cllr Tolson to Jackie Doyle-Price MP and Stephen Metcalfe MP	Graham Farrant / Lucy Magill
10/09/14	Cllr Gerrish	That Thurrock Council pays tribute to Andy Smith and mourns his sad passing. We recognise and give thanks for the many years of hard work and commitment that he gave to the people of Thurrock. The Council asks that the Mayor holds a memorial service in Andy's memory.	Officers are currently exploring options for a memorial service to be held in memory of Councillor Smith.	Graham Farrant / Linda Foster
10/09/14	Cllr Kelly	We call on Thurrock Council to complete the verge hardening projects started in Little Thurrock Rectory, Stifford Clays and Aveley.	Works within the scope of the current pilot have been completed. The pilot is ongoing and the performance of the materials used will be monitored throughout the winter months. The geo-grid material used for the pilot costs £100 per square metre and the Council does not have money within the current year capital programme to extend the pilot. A report is being prepared for Cabinet seeking approval to ask Government for the necessary funding.	David Bull
10/09/14	Cllr Gledhill	We call on government to make Councils, who are housing authorities, subject to the same sanctions as private landlord. This would require changing the law to allow Councils to be prosecuted easier where they fail to bring tenants homes up to an acceptable standard.	A letter has been sent to the Prime Minister to advise of the request made in the Motion and to seek a response to the issue raised. Any response received will be reported to a future meeting of the Council by way of this update report.	Barbara Brownlee