

Motions Submitted to Council

In accordance with Chapter 2, Part 2 (Rule 15) of the Council's Constitution

Motion 3

Submitted by Councillor J Kent

This Council believes that a free press is a cornerstone of a fully functioning democracy. Therefore, this Council is appalled at the decision to, effectively, blacklist the editor of Thurrock Nub News - Neil Speight - and calls on "Legal and Democratic Services" to reverse their decision and fully engage with Mr Speight and all bona fide journalists.

Monitoring Officer Comments:

This notice of motion relates to a matter which affects the Authority. The circumstances and information relating to the subject matter of the motion relate to an individual and is subject to data protection law. Further, schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that information relating to an individual is exempt information, subject to the public interest test.

Generally, there is a public interest in providing transparency of the decisions of the Council. However it is not considered to be in the public interest to disclose information at a public Council meeting where data protection law provides safeguards against disclosure of personal information, unless there is a legal basis for disclosing such information.

Section 151 Officer Comments:

There are no financial implications arising from this motion.

Is the above motion within the remit of Council to approve?

Yes