

## Item 18 - Update on Motions agreed by the Council – 22 July 2014

Date	From	Motion	Status	Accountable Director
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	<p>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>	<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 nominated to Essex Fire Authority, the Leaders of each Political Group, the Leader of the Council and the Mayor</p>	Graham Farrant / Lucy Magill

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			<p>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 10<sup>th</sup> 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"> <li>1. Ask Senior Officers to volunteer a salary reduction of 5% in annual salaries, which had approval by members back in 2010.</li> <li>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).</li> </ol>	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 service budget as transparent and accountable to members as possible via appropriate reports.	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 prepared with this fine balance in mind. Members will have the opportunity for further discussion in a pre-	Carmel Littleton

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			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.  The Council is currently pursuing competitive grant funding for highways maintenance. The potential to finance a verge hardening programme will be reviewed once the outcome of Thurrock's funding bid is known. The bid for highway maintenance improvements was submitted before the DfT deadline of 9 February 2015. We are currently awaiting a response.	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

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22/10/14	Cllr Halden	The Chamber instructs the constitution working group to carry out a governance review, in order judge the need for the committee, cabinet, mayoral, or hybrid forms of governance from May 2015 onwards.	<p>It was agreed at the meeting of Council on 22 October 2014 that an item on the Constitution Working Group be brought back to the next meeting of Council (28 January 2015) and a small budget be allocated to the group to investigate thoroughly the benefits and disadvantages of different forms of governance within similar size authorities, such as Brighton and Hove and East Cheshire.</p> <p>The CWG was constituted at Council on 28/01/15 and a budget allocated to the group.</p> <p>The first meeting of the CWG took place on 2 March 2015 and work is currently underway on the Governance Review.</p>	Graham Farrant / Fiona Taylor
28/01/15	Cllr Pearce	Along with the residents of Aveley and Uplands this council welcomes the decision by the Secretary of State to reject plans for 500 houses on the former fireman's club site in Aveley on greenbelt land.	No update required.	David Bull
28/01/15	Cllr Aker	Thurrock Council calls on the Cabinet to reject fortnightly bin collections.	At its meeting on 11 February 2015 Cabinet considered the comments of the Cleaner, Greener, Safer Overview and Scrutiny Committee in respect of the proposal to move to alternate weekly collections for the residual and recycling waste streams. Following receipt of the committees comments Cabinet agreed to withdraw the proposal for alternate week collections of these two waste streams within the current year's budget proposals and instructed officers to seek alternative savings from within the waste collection budget.	Mike Heath
25/03/15	Cllr Gledhill	We call on Thurrock Council to investigate taking similar action to Essex and Harlow Councils and apply for an injunction to help stop unauthorised traveller encampments in Thurrock.	The granting of an interim injunction in Harlow against unauthorised encampments and the future court hearing to establish whether a full injunction will eventually be granted is being closely followed to see if a similar measure would be an appropriate measure in Thurrock. This is being done both locally and through the Essex Countywide Traveller Unit, of which Thurrock is a	Gavin Dennett

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			member council. A further response will be submitted when the outcome of these court proceedings is known.	
25/03/15	Cllr Gledhill	This Council thanks all retiring elected members for their service to Thurrock.	No action required.	David Bull