

Notices of Motion submitted under Standing Order B36

1. By County Councillor John Fillis

Health and Wellbeing Grant Scheme

That council notes:

The "Health and Wellbeing Grant Scheme" report by Veritau stated: "The approval of the project was undertaken in accordance with the County Council's decision making process and was lawful."

Lancashire County Council Officers stated: "The monitoring officer advised that the report states unambiguously that the decisions taken by the former cabinet members for Health and Wellbeing were lawful in terms of the purpose of the grant scheme and the county council constitution and that based on the contents of the report there has been no criminal conduct."

The Police stated: "From the information available to me at this time there is no evidence of Criminality."

The Audit, Risk and Governance Committee recommendation of 29th October 2018, reported to Full Council on 13th December 2018, stated (in part): "ii) Report this matter to Lancashire Constabulary for investigation to determine if there has been any fraud, misconduct in public office or a criminal breach of electoral law."

The recommendation was put forward by Cllr Phillippa Williamson.

Therefore, this council resolves that:

- (i) Cllr Alan Schofield should resign as Chair of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee, following a clear failure of duty to ensure members of the committee kept within the bounds of legal advice from council officers concerning the "Health and Wellbeing Grant Scheme" report by Veritau.
- (ii) Cllr Williamson should apologise to the council for ignoring the advice.
- (iii) The Conservative Administration has misused Council Tax Payers Money and Council Officer and Police time.

2. By County Councillor Lizzi Collinge

End Violence at Work Charter

Lancashire County Council recognises that many public service workers are subjected to violence and aggression in the course of their work. Evidence provided by UNISON highlights that in some contracted out services, public service workers are told by their employers to tolerate violence, suggesting assaults are just "part of the job".

This council applauds UNISON for developing the 'End Violence at Work Charter' - which commits employers to ten basic actions to safeguard public service workers and provide support should they become the target of violence at work.

This council wishes to see far more employers confront the issue of violence in the workplace and therefore commits to:

Making the 'End Violence at Work Charter' a core part of our commissioning process.

Asking all existing service contract providers in Lancashire to sign up to the End Violence at Work Charter and make the award of new contracts dependent on a commitment by the organisation to sign the Charter.

This Council recognises that this approach is consistent with our ongoing commitment to an ethical procurement and commissioning process.

Further, council reiterates its opposition to violence at work in all sectors and reaffirms its commitment to working with its own employees and Trade Unions to ensure that all appropriate steps and support are in place to tackle the issue for its own workforce.

3. By County Councillor Gillian Oliver

Lancashire County Council Use of Bailiffs

Lancashire County Council instructed bailiffs to retrieve unpaid debts 6,065 times in the last 12 months.

Councillors are hearing about the distress these visits bring, and in some cases have received complaints about the bailiffs' perceived failure to act within the law.

This council commits itself to:

- (i) Ensuring bailiffs sent in its name know the law and act within it; and
- (ii) Seek an independent regulator for the sector and asks the Chief Executive and Director of Resources to write to Lucy Frazer MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Ministry of Justice, requesting this.

4. By County Councillor Erica Lewis

Declare a Climate Emergency

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change 1.5C report, published in October 2018, humanity has 12 years for "ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society, the private sector, indigenous peoples and local communities" to deliver the "rapid and far-reaching transitions in land, energy, industry, buildings, transport, and cities" needed to turn this around, so we can avoid reaching tipping points where we no longer have the ability to avoid extreme weather events.

In recent years Lancashire has been subject to both flood and fire. Events that used to be described as 1 in 100 year events to many residents now seem to be regular events. The changes we are seeing in the climate have presented severe challenges to residents, business and organisations, impacting on property, transport, agriculture and other services in Lancashire. Globally millions of others have seen their communities disrupted and devastated with loss of life and livelihood. Many organisations have been working tirelessly for years to try to limit climate change, but action must happen faster. Business as usual is clearly no longer an option. We need local wisdom to increase our resilience and to prepare for the climate changes already in the system.

We recognise the current financial constraints the council faces and expect both development and implementation of action to become carbon neutral and make adaptations for climate change will need significant amounts of additional external funding. However, it should also be recognised that failing to act has a cost we cannot afford to pay, and that some actions may have a positive or neutral financial impact. Investing in sustainable energy production and climate change adaptation can deliver economic as well as social benefits through new jobs and savings as well as improved well-being for people locally and worldwide.

A number of councils across the country have already declared a climate emergency. Lancashire County Council therefore:

- (i) Declares a 'Climate Emergency', and commits to making the operations and activities of Lancashire County Council Carbon Neutral by 2030.
- (ii) Recognises that answering the challenge of climate change is not work that can be done individually and therefore commits to working in partnership with councils, businesses, organisations and residents across the county to meet this challenge.
- (iii) Establishes a scrutiny task group to review the council's operations and identify the changes that need making so that appropriate measures can be included in next year's budget, and recommendations for action short of budget proposals can be taken as soon as possible.
- (iv) Calls upon the UK Government to provide councils across the country with the powers, resources and funding to enable the work that must be done.

5. By County Councillor Andrew Snowden

Making Lancashire a Leader in Supporting People with Crohns and Colitis

The numbers of people suffering with Crohns and Colitis and other severe bowel and urinary diseases and conditions, such as recovering from cancer surgery, is rising. There are also increasing numbers of young people with the condition, brought to the world's attention by the recent news of a ten year old boy from Kentucky who took his own life after being bullied for having a colostomy bag.

These conditions in themselves are incredibly painful, exhausting and stressful - for many they also pose life threatening and life changing situations and decisions. Yet, on the whole, awareness in the general public about the severity and reality of life for those with these conditions is low, leading to embarrassment and stress for those with the condition and meaning that things such as access to toilets are not seen as a public health priority.

Campaigns such as 'Not every disability is visible' and the 'Can't Wait' card have made headway in raising awareness that not everyone needing access to a disabled toilet has a readily visible disability. But much more needs to be done.

It is proposed that Lancashire becomes a national beacon of best practice in supporting people with Crohns and Colitis and other related conditions by:

- Recognising toilet access, both public and private, as an important public health issue.
- Raising awareness of groups for whom toilet access is a crucial issue and creating a better understanding of the conditions, symptoms and support needed
- Ensuring the county council leads by example as an organisation in its employment practices, awareness raising and support.
- Working with partners to improve toilet access and to identify means to do this through information sharing and digital platforms.
- Developing a pledge with district councils, businesses and the public sector to increase recognition of the 'Can't Wait' card programme and sharing their toilet facilities information on relevant digital platforms.

6. By County Councillor Gina Dowding

Declare a Climate Emergency

Lancashire County Council believes that:

- (i) All governments (national, regional and local) have a duty to limit the negative impacts of Climate Breakdown, and local governments that recognise this should not wait for their national governments to change their policies. It is important for the residents of Lancashire and the UK that counties commit to carbon neutrality as quickly as possible.
- (ii) The consequences of global temperature rising above 1.5°C are so severe that preventing this from happening must be humanity's number one priority.
- (iii) Bold climate action can deliver economic benefits in terms of new jobs, economic savings and market opportunities, as well as improved well-being for people in Lancashire and worldwide.

Lancashire County Council resolves to:

- (i) Declare a 'Climate Emergency'.
- (ii) Pledge to make the county of Lancashire carbon neutral by 2030, taking into account both production and consumption emissions (scope 1, 2 and 3).
- (iii) Call on national Government to provide the powers and resources to make the 2030 target possible.
- (iv) Work with other authorities (both within the UK and internationally) to determine and implement best practice methods to limit Global Warming to less than 1.5°C.
- (v) Work with partners across the county to deliver this new goal through all relevant strategies and plans.
- (vi) Ensure that senior staff are fully aware of this commitment and Cabinet reports to Full Council every six months with the actions undertaken and planned to address this emergency.

References:

1. Fossil CO₂ & GHG emissions of all world countries, 2017:
<http://edgar.jrc.ec.europa.eu/overview.php?v=CO2andGHG1970-2016&dst=GHGpc>
2. World Resources Institute: <https://www.wri.org/blog/2018/10/8-things-you-need-know-about-ipcc-15-c-report>
3. The IPCC's Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C:
<https://www.ipcc.ch/report/sr15/>
4. Including US cities Berkeley:
<https://www.theclimatemobilization.org/blog/2018/6/13/berkeley-unanimously-declares-climate-emergency> and Hoboken:
<https://www.theclimatemobilization.org/blog/2018/4/25/hoboken-resolves-to-mobilize>, and the C40 cities: <https://www.c40.org/other/deadline-2020>

Scope 1, 2 and 3 of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol explained:

<https://www.carbontrust.com/resources/faqs/services/scope-3-indirect-carbon-emissions>