

COUNCIL – 22 FEBRUARY 2018

NOTICES OF MOTION

Submitted to Council in Accordance with paragraph 1.34 of the Council Procedural Rules

1. Alternative Forms of Governance

Proposed by Councillor J Nicholas and Seconded by Councillor B Walmsley

To convene a cross-party Working Group, at the start of the next municipal year, to consider the implementation of alternative forms of governance, with the recommendations being presented to this Council.

2. Cheshire East Road and Footpath Network

Proposed by Councillor I Faseyi and Seconded by Councillor N Mannion.

This Council notes concerns in respect of a managed decline of our road network and supports the LGA's call for the government to deal with the disparity in funding between national roads (Motorways & Major trunk Roads) and local roads.

Whilst the building of new roads and by-passes funded via Central government capital grants is welcome, it merely highlights the increasingly dilapidated state of a large proportion of the rest of the Cheshire East's road and footpath network.

The hard winter, combined with a lack of any meaningful programme of preventative road maintenance on all but the main trunk roads in Cheshire East in recent years, has resulted in many local & estate roads now rapidly deteriorating to the verge of becoming a danger to road users and pedestrians in places.

The ongoing reliance on merely filling potholes with "blobs" of tarmac rather than a programme of proper structural repairs is both only a temporary, and also an inefficient use of the shrinking available resources-a case of "penny wise, pound foolish"?

Reference: See page 4 of FIRST Magazine, February Issue.
<https://www.local.gov.uk/about/news/first-magazine>

3. Deprivation Levels

Proposed by Councillor S Brookfield and Seconded by Councillor L Jeuda

This Council notes the view that it is widely acknowledged that Cheshire East is a diverse unitary authority with some areas having recognised 'Executive Wealth' status; and that it is therefore disturbing to note that deprivation levels in some parts of the Borough have declined further since 2010 with disparity widening. According to Public Health England (July 2017) 'life expectancy is 10.3 years lower for men and 8.3 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Cheshire East.

As the elected representatives of most of these wards, the Labour Group requests a comprehensive report be prepared that details the plans that Cheshire East Council has in place to tackle the nationally recognised deprivation in wards within Crewe and Macclesfield, as well as detailing current initiatives to improve the health and well-being of residents living in those wards and how current funding will be used to support those initiatives.

4. Licensing of Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles

Proposed by Councillor D Flude and Seconded by Councillor B Roberts

This Council notes the concern that the Licensing of Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles (Safeguarding and Road Safety) Bill was 'talked out' by Sir Christopher Chope (Christchurch) (Con) in Parliament.

Cheshire East Children and Family's Scrutiny report, at points 14.2 and 14.3 made relevant recommendations upon Child Sexual Exploitation recommended Taxi and Private Hire Licensing, it is disappointing and regrettable that this important legislation was talked out.

This Council requests that all of Cheshire East's Members of Parliament re-submit the Bill.

Background documents:

<https://www.local.gov.uk/about/news/lga-responds-taxi-licensing-bill-being-talked-out>

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-02-02/debates/5364D0A7-BBCF-4E51-8E75-F87FD1AD192/LicensingOfTaxisAndPrivateHireVehicles\(SafeguardingAndRoadSafety\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-02-02/debates/5364D0A7-BBCF-4E51-8E75-F87FD1AD192/LicensingOfTaxisAndPrivateHireVehicles(SafeguardingAndRoadSafety)Bill)

5. Education Funding

Proposed by Councillor S Corcoran

This Council notes concerns that whilst local schools were threatened with funding cuts of 7.5%, some schools will now receive funding increases of 1.1%. And, that as a 1.1% increase is lower than the 3% rate of inflation it is, therefore, a cut in funding in real terms. As a result, some schools will have to consider making loyal, hardworking staff redundant if the funding settlement is not improved.

This Council therefore calls on all local MPs to campaign for more funding for our schools.