

"We the undersigned wish to put before the Council a motion to rescind the decision of this Council to stop the printing and distribution of hard copies of Council papers."

Resolved:-

That it be noted that there are no plans to cease the general production and distribution of hard copy agendas and reports in the short term.

Reason for Decision

To respond to the Notice of Motion.

Other Options

None.

Note:- This is an Executive Function.

Eligible for call-in to Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee

Executive Councillor:- Woodley

Called-in to Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee

400 Notice of Motion - Help Refugees Arriving in Europe

At the meeting of Council held on 22nd October 2015, Members received the following Notice of Motion in relation to the arrival of refugees in Europe, which was proposed by Councillor J Garston and seconded by Councillor Flewitt (this had been referred to Cabinet in accordance with Standing Order 8.4).

"This Council recognises the plight of the refugees caught in the Syrian crisis and that this is a real tragedy and genuine help needs to be offered.

We support George Osborne, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in looking at some of the overseas aid budget as a way of funding financial assistance to the many men, women and children affected and we request funding from the Overseas Aid Budget should this local authority be asked to offer assistance to any of the displaced men, women or children."

Resolved:-

1. This Council recognises the plight of the refugees caught in the Syrian crisis and that this is a real tragedy and genuine help needs to be offered.
2. It be noted that:
 - (i) On the 18 September the Council wrote to the East of England Strategic Migration Partnership with an initial offer to support 10 refugees, with a preference for families, pending clarification of the resettlement process and the funding.
 - (ii) On 2 October Richard Harrington, the Minister with responsibility for Syrian Refugees, confirmed that the government will provide some funding beyond the first 12 months to ensure local authorities can plan ahead. Full details of the additional funding are still to be known. Once they are, the Council will reassess the numbers of refugees it would be able to support.

(iii) The Council must ensure that whatever the final number of refugees it is able to assist, the appropriate infrastructure is in place to meet their potentially complex needs, not only in the first 12 months, but for the longer term.

(iv) Once more information is known, the Council will work alongside local partners, charities and faith groups in providing a positive response and that it has recently met with faith leaders to coordinate its response to assisting with the crisis.

Reason for Decision

To respond to the Notice of Motion.

Other Options

None.

Note:- This is an Executive Function.

Eligible for call-in to Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Executive Councillor:- Gilbert

401 Notice of Motion - Hazard Perception Test

At the meeting of Council held on 22nd October 2015, Members received the following Notice of Motion in relation to the hazard perception test, which was proposed by Councillor McMahon and seconded by Councillor Callaghan (this had been referred to Cabinet in accordance with Standing Order 8.4)

"We call upon Members of Southend on Sea Borough Council, to support a request to write to Her Majesty's Government with the following request, this being:

'That consideration be given to include within the 'Hazard Perception Test', which is part of the Theory Test for the UK Driving Licence, a digital simulation of the road as visually perceived by users of other types of road transport, namely motorcycles and cycles. This may highlight the perspective(s) that may be misinterpreted by car drivers without experience of using motorcycles or pedal cycles in the mixed highway environment'

This request is to assist the reduction of incidents of an untoward nature involving these types of transport, with particular regard to Southend on Sea's commitment to 'Safe Sustainable Transport' and the reduction of accidents, especially on our gateway roads into Southend, where unfortunately the combination of these types of transport, with low awareness of the others perception, does, on occasions, have untoward consequences"

Resolved:-

That it be noted that the Council is not the responsible authority in these matters, but officers be requested to write to the DVSA to advise them of Members' suggestions to amend the Hazard Perception Test