

Motion to Council
29 June 2021
Subject Advertising
Proposer Councillor Schmierer
Seconded Councillor Osborn

Item
9a

Paid promotion of activities or products that are potentially harmful to mental or physical health or the environment, such as junk food, gambling, alcohol or the most polluting forms of transport, are very common on our television screens, radios, social media feeds and across a variety of out of home advertising media.

There is a strong precedent for precluding such forms of advertising. Most forms of tobacco advertising and sponsorship were banned from 2003 (e.g. on billboards and in printed publications): tobacco sponsorship of international sport was banned from 2005.

Other councils, including Bristol, have developed more ethical advertising policies.

This council **RESOLVES** to:

- 1) ask cabinet to devise an advertising strategy for Norwich City Council which recognises the harmful effects that junk food, environmentally polluting products and activities, payday lenders, gambling and alcohol can have on local residents. This policy would then be used to ascertain which companies and products the council wishes to associate itself with and support, including local businesses, and ban harmful products, companies or services from being advertised in council owned premises, e.g. car parks, in our communications, or from sponsoring council organised events.
- 2) update the council's planning policy to ensure that new advertising hoardings cannot be installed within the proximity of schools.
- 3) Ask cabinet to work with partners to phase out all forms of advertising, especially via outdoor media across the city, that are potentially harmful to our communities, such as gambling, alcohol, junk food and environmentally damaging products.
- 4) Write to the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, asking for a ban on such forms of unethical advertising nationally and asking to follow the lead of Italy, which in 2018 introduced a 'Dignity Decree' that banned all advertisements for gambling services across all channels in the country, meaning gambling advertisements were no longer allowed on television, radio, print media, the internet, or any other public forum in Italy.

Motion to Council
29 June 2021
Subject Right to food
Proposer Councillor Huntley
Seconded Councillor Davis

Item
9b

The current National Food Strategy (NFS) review, the first since that commissioned by the post-war Labour government, represents a rare opportunity to influence the approach, practices, and direction of future food planning. Alongside addressing acute food poverty, including child hunger, this strategic review must call for a fundamental 'right to food', to be enshrined in law, thereby ensuring that government obligations on food poverty are clear and government bodies can be held to account for violations of this right, as argued for by the Right to Food campaign in order to address the 11 million U.K. residents experiencing food poverty.

The recommendations outlined in Part 1 of the NFS report include:

- 1) expanding the eligibility for the Free School Meal scheme to include every child (up to the age of 16) from a household where the parent or guardian is in receipt of Universal Credit or equivalent benefits
- 2) extending the Holiday Activity and Food programme to all areas of England, so that summer holiday support is available to all children in receipt of free school meals
- 3) increasing the value of the Healthy Start vouchers to £4.25 per week, and expand the scheme to every pregnant woman and to all households with children under four where a parent or guardian is in receipt of Universal Credit or equivalent benefits
- 4) the support of supermarkets and convenience stores (with the support from the Association of Convenience Stores) in supplementing these vouchers with additional free fruit and vegetables

This council **RESOLVES** to:

- 1) Call on the Chair of the National Food Strategy, Henry Dimbleby, to recommend in addition:
 - a) for a 'right to food' to be established in law, thereby ensuring a recognisable governmental responsibility for this provision.
 - b) that accessibility to the Free School Meal scheme is given equal importance as eligibility (so that digital poverty doesn't precipitate food poverty)
 - c) that accessibility to the Holiday Activity and Food programme is given equal importance as eligibility (so that digital poverty doesn't preclude participation and precipitate food poverty)
 - d) raising the value of the Healthy Start vouchers to £5.00.
 - e) that all food for sale in the U.K. on reaching its 'best before date' is automatically donated for distribution through delivery networks such as foodbanks.

- f) that all local schemes encouraging environmentally sustainable food production, including communal allotments or appropriate foods grown in communal areas, be eligible to funding drawn from tariffs imposed upon products not meeting the standards of certification schemes covering animal welfare, environmental and climate protections as outlined in recommendation 5.
- 2) Ask the Lord Mayor to write to thank those local supermarkets and convenience stores actively donating food for distribution through local delivery networks such as foodbanks to Norwich residents.
- 3) Ask the Leader of the council to write to the relevant Secretary of State urging the National Food Strategy recommendations

Motion to Council
29 June 2021

Subject Climate and the ecological emergency bill

Proposer Councillor Packer
Seconder Councillor Giles

Item

9c

Humans have already caused irreversible climate change, the impacts of which are being felt in the UK and around the world. Global temperatures have increased by 1 degree Celsius from pre-industrial levels. Atmospheric CO₂ levels are above 400 parts per million (ppm) and continue to rise—this far exceeds the 350 ppm deemed to be a safe level for humanity. Without more significant and sustained action, the world is set to exceed the Paris Agreement’s 1.5°C limit between 2030 and 2040.

This council:

1. Notes, that the current UK target of net zero by 2050 is not satisfactory. It is too little too late. The increase in harm caused by a rise of 2°C rather than 1.5°C is significant. This is described by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C published in October 2018. According to the IPCC, limiting heating to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society, the private sector, and local communities. This action requires appropriate resources from central government to enable cities, like Norwich, to deliver the change needed to avoid the worst impacts of climatic change and to drive a sustainable and socially just post Covid-19 recovery.
2. Recognises once again that the evidence is clear. The costs of failing to address this crisis will far outstrip the investments required to prevent it. Investing now will bring many benefits in the form of good jobs, breathable cities and thriving communities.
3. Notes that many local authorities are playing an important role in the UK taking action to achieve net zero
4. Notes that there is a Bill before Parliament—the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill (published as the Climate and Ecology Bill)—according to which the UK Government must develop an emergency strategy that:
 - a) requires that the UK plays its fair and proper role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with limiting global temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial temperatures;
 - b) ensures that all the UK’s consumption emissions are accounted for;
 - c) includes emissions from aviation and shipping;
 - d) protects and restores biodiverse habitats along overseas supply chains;

- e) restores and regenerates the UK's depleted soils, wildlife habitats and species populations to healthy and robust states, maximising their capacity to absorb CO2 and their resistance to climate heating
- f) builds on the findings of the parliament's climate assembly, to engage further with the UK Government to help develop the emergency strategy.

Council therefore **RESOLVES** to:

- 1) Support the Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE) Bill;
- 2) Inform the local media of this decision;
- 3) Write to local Members of Parliament, asking them to support or thanking them for supporting the CEE Bill; and
- 4) Write to the CEE Bill Alliance, the organisers of the campaign for the Bill, expressing its support (campaign@ceebill.uk)

Motion to Council
29 June 2021

Subject A tax on excess online profits

Proposer Councillor Wright
Seconder Councillor Ackroyd

Item

9d

Whilst smaller High Street non-food retail outlets were forcibly closed, and some are facing business failure, because of the COVID-19 lockdown, larger national businesses and multi-national businesses offering on-line products have thrived, reporting bumper profits.

Recent proposals from the UN and the EU are working to establish an international consensus on business taxation, to minimise profit-shifting for the purpose of avoiding corporation tax, but that these proposals are not likely to be introduced in time to have any impact on the excess online profits that some companies have made off the back of the coronavirus epidemic.

Council **RESOLVES**

- 1) To affirm its support for raising a bespoke tax on excess online profits has precedent in the UK.
- 2) Expresses its disappointment that the Chancellor has not yet introduced such a tax and believes that if we are, as the Prime Minister claims, 'all in this together', then the excessive profits of such on-line businesses should be subjected to a fair level of tax, and that the revenue raised employed to support our hollowed out public services (local government, schools and health) and the financial recovery of our high street retailers.
- 3) To ask group leaders to write to;
 - a) The Chancellor of the Exchequer, The Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP, urging him to introduce such a tax as one means to ensure that we are 'all in this together'.
 - b) Our local MPs to seek their support for such a tax.

Motion to Council
29 June 2021

Subject Single parent's rights

Proposer Councillor Haynes
Seconded Councillor Youssef

Item

9e

In Norwich, 7.3% of households consist of a lone parent with dependent children. A third of children in single parent homes live in poverty, despite most single parents being employed. Single parents face discrimination throughout their daily lives, including in the workplace and when accessing housing. This has knock-on effects for them, their children, and society as a whole.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, many single parents were left isolated by lockdown rules which prevented them from accessing support networks and, often, the ability to interact with other adults. Single parents were more likely to have been furloughed than other adults.

The Equality Act 2010 outlaws discrimination towards certain groups who are deemed to have one of the nine protected characteristics. We believe single parents deserve similar protection.

This council **RESOLVES** to:

- 1) ask group leaders to write to the Minister for Women and Equalities asking for single parenthood to become a protected characteristic in the Equality Act; and
- 2) add a question monitoring single parenthood status to council equality and diversity monitoring forms and staff surveys