

Motion to Council
27 November 2018

Subject Brexit

Proposer Councillor Wright
Seconder Councillor Raby

Item
9(a)

The Government has now published the text of the draft deal on the UK's exit from the European Union.

The People's Vote campaign seeks to ensure that the government's Brexit deal is put before the country in a public vote, so that we can decide if a decision that will affect our lives for generations makes the country better or worse off.

Council therefore **RESOLVES** to;

- (1) Join other councils in endorsing the cross-party People's Vote campaign.
- (2) Ask group leaders to write to our two MPs, expressing this council's strong desire for a popular vote on the final deal, including the option to maintain full EU membership.

Motion to Council
27 November 2018
Subject Dignity for fast food and service industry workers in
Norwich
Proposer Councillor Matthew Fulton-McAlister
Seconder Councillor Waters

Item

9(b)

“Like most cities Norwich has seen an increase in low paid, often zero hour contract forms of work, with a significant rise in global and multinational corporate fast food outlets in recent years.

Currently many of their staff are paid below the rate recommended by the Living Wage Commission as the minimum necessary to enable a decent standard of living.

Furthermore, promises to allow workers the opportunity to move off zero-hours contracts of employment have thus far yet to be delivered; no trade union recognition agreement is in place and cases of bullying and harassment by managers widespread.

Council **RESOLVES** to:

- (1) Applaud and support the courageous actions last month of fast food and service industry workers across the country, in particular the workers of global giants McDonald’s, Deliveroo, Uber, TGI Fridays, fighting to better the lives of thousands of underpaid, overworked people.
- (2) Note with encouragement the role young people are playing in these successful actions and the difference these actions can make to the whole trade union/labour market.
- (3) Express support to their unions (including the BFAWU, Unite, GMB and the IWGB) who are demanding better pay and conditions, union recognition and an end to exploitative, precarious contracts.
- (4) Ask the Leader to write to Norwich Members of Parliament and the Rt Hon Greg Clark MP, Secretary of State for the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy requesting that workers should be protected through;
 - a) cracking down on exploitative work practices and make tackling poverty the priority it should be, ending zero-hour contracts, equalising the minimum wage to ensure its the same rate regardless of age, introducing a minimum wage of at least £10 per hour giving a pay rise to over five and a half million workers.

- b) Giving all workers equal rights from day one, including sick pay, paid holiday, and protection from unfair dismissal.
- c) Strengthen the enforcement of those rights by properly resourcing HMRC and imposing fines on employers who breach labour market rights and regulations.
- d) Make it illegal for employers to make deductions from tips, so staff get to keep 100%, and customers know who their money is going to.
- e) Banning businesses from taking a cut of any tips paid via card, as well as charging waiters to work and keeping "optional" service charges.
- f) Preventing employers from using contractual clauses (Non-Disclosure Agreements) which stop disclosure of future discrimination, harassment or victimisation
- g) Doubling the time-frame within which employment tribunals can be taken, and require employers to publish their sexual harassment policy publicly, alongside the steps they are taking to implement it.
- h) Ensuring all employment rights begin from day one rather than having to wait two years to be free from fear of dismissal.

Motion to	Council 27 November 2018	Item
Subject	Renewable energy in new developments in Greater Norwich to 2036	9(c)
Proposer	Councillor Carlo	
Seconder	Councillor Raby	

“Increasing the amount of renewable and sustainable energy generation in new development is essential if Norwich is to play its part in reducing carbon emissions. However, the Greater Norwich Local Plan Regulation Consultation states that it is not possible to require more than 10% renewable energy as “there is no current evidence that this is achievable”. This statement lacks ambition in relation to what is technically possible and to local authority renewable targets elsewhere.

This council **RESOLVES** to ask the council’s representatives on the Greater Norwich Development Partnership to encourage the partnership to adopt a much higher target for achieving renewable or sustainable energy on new sites in the Greater Norwich Local Plan”

Motion to Council
27 November 2018

Subject Local business

Proposer Councillor Raby
Seconder Councillor Carlo

Item

9(d)

“Many retailers on British high streets are struggling. This year alone House of Fraser, Maplin and Toys R Us have all gone into administration while household names like Marks & Spencer, Carpetright and Mothercare have together announced hundreds of store closures. This has had a considerable impact on Norwich.

This council therefore **RESOLVES** to:

(1) ask cabinet to:

- a) Work more closely with councils outside Norwich to ensure that out of town shopping centres do not draw people away from the shops in the centre of Norwich.
- b) Be more active in promoting start-ups in the centre of Norwich by offering free short term hot desking and office/retail space in unoccupied properties owned by the council.
- c) Further promote the services and expertise that organisations like the Norwich Business Improvement District, Norfolk and Waveney Enterprise Services and the council's own staff can provide in particular to start-up businesses and other small and medium-sized businesses on our high streets.

(2) ask the leader of the council to write to the secretary of state to:

- a) unilaterally implement a fairer taxation system which ensures that online traders pay their fair proportion of tax, within the next two years
- b) note that 100% business rate retention proposals for local authorities are likely to lead to significant divergences in English councils' funding without benefitting their residents and that this policy needs to be shelved until its implications are fully understood
- c) Provide tax relief for shops that wish to renovate their existing premises rather than close them in favour of newly built units.

Motion to Council
27 November 2018

Item

Subject Protecting tenants in the private rented sector

9(e)

Proposer Councillor Jones
Seconder Councillor Maguire

People in Norwich who are renting from a private landlord often have to put up with insecure tenancies, poor standards and rising costs.

Over the last 8 years we have seen a very significant increase in the private rented sector within Norwich, whereby at least one in five households now rent privately.

Recent media coverage of the appalling conditions experienced by tenants residing in St Faith's Lane demonstrate the ever serious need for radical housing reform to better protect and improve the private rented sector.

Council **RESOLVES** to:

- (1) Thank the officers in the private sector housing and home options teams for their hard work and dedication to supporting tenants within this city, but particularly those at St Faith's Lane.
- (2) Request the government provide the true funding required to cover the costs of effective enforcement within this city.
- (3) Ask the leader of Norwich City Council to write to the Secretary of State for Housing demanding policy change so that tenants in the private rented sector have new protections including;
 - a) Giving security and peace of mind by legislating for 3-year tenancies giving renters a stable home and landlords the confidence to invest in their properties.
 - b) Ending excessive rent increases by putting a ceiling on rent increases during the new 3-year tenancies.
 - c) Banning rip-off letting agent fees for tenants by effectively legislating to stop letting agents charging tenants fees, rather than the watered down proposals of the Tenant Fees Bill.

- d) Introducing a national register of landlords to drive up standards and ensure tough sanctions are in place for bad landlords.
- e) Creating a new benchmarking system for property standards.
- f) Bringing an end to cold homes and reduce fuel poverty by setting a new target to upgrade the energy efficiency of properties in the private rented sector.