

Meeting:	Council
Meeting date:	8 March 2019
Title of report:	Motions on notice
Report by:	Solicitor to the Council

Classification

Open

Key decision

This is not an executive decision.

Wards affected

Countywide

Purpose

To consider motions received on notice.

Recommendation

THAT: the motions listed at paragraph 7 are debated and determined by Council.

Alternative options

- 1 There are no alternative options to the recommendation; the constitution makes provision for motions on notice to be debated and decided by Council.

Key considerations

- 2 The constitution provides that members of Council may submit written notice of motions for debate at Council. A motion must be signed by the proposer and seconder and submitted not later than midday on the seventh working day before the date of the meeting. A member cannot propose more than one motion on notice per meeting and a maximum of three motions will be debated at meetings of full Council.
- 3 Motions must be about matters for which the council has a responsibility or which affect the area.
- 4 Motions for which notice has been given will be listed on the agenda in the order in which notice was received unless the member giving notice states, in writing, that they propose to move it to a later meeting or withdraw it.
- 5 Up to one and a half hours will be allocated to debate motions on notice but that time may be varied at the discretion of the chairman.

6 Three motions will be debated at the meeting. The motions for discussion are set out below:

Motion – Minister for borderlands

(Proposed by Councillor EPJ Harvey, Seconded by Councillor A Seldon)

It is suggested that a 'Minister for Borderlands' would:

- (a) Be of Parliamentary Under–Secretary of State rank and work across Government Departments, and with the Scotland and Wales Ministers' Offices;**
- (b) Engage with councils, communities and stakeholders across the Borders regions on issues specific to their borderland status ;**
- (c) Promote and raise awareness of Borderlands issues/opportunities within both central Government and in the relevant Parliaments;**
- (d) Develop close working relationships with bodies representing the five councils delivering on the northern Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal and the unitary and county authorities on both sides of the England-Wales border**

It is recognised that Northern Ireland and the Irish republic also have Borderlands issues, but since theirs transcend national boundaries, this proposal does not seek to suggest a Minister's responsibilities should necessarily include this particular border area.

It is therefore proposed that this Council:

- recognises that local authorities located immediately adjacent to the national borders for England, Wales and Scotland face particular challenges associated with devolution, region initiatives, planning cross-border health, education, public transport, infrastructure investment, economic growth.**
- warmly congratulates the northern communities submitting their bids to the recently announced 'Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal', covering the cross-border local authority areas of Northumberland County Council, Scottish Borders Council, Cumbria County Council, Carlisle City Council and Dumfries and Galloway Council.**
- supports the principle of proposing the appointment of a 'Minister for Borderlands'; and resolves to join Northumberland County Council in writing to Her Majesty's Government, namely the First Lord of the Treasury (Prime Minister), the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Secretaries of State for Scotland and for Wales to support a request the creation of such a position in government.**
- resolves to encourage all borderland council's on the England-Wales border to add their support to this Ministerial appointment and to lobby the LGA for its support to this request, through its recently created 'People and Places Board'.**

Motion – Eastern city bridge protective corridor

(Proposed by Councillor JLV Kenyon, Seconded by Councillor A Seldon)

This council asks the executive to consider investigating and ensuring that a protective corridor can be established for an Eastern city bridge from the B4399 at Rotherwas crossing over to the B4224, near or close to Hollywell Gutter Lane, then on through to the A438 near the Cock of Tupsley.

Motion – Climate Change

(Proposed by Councillor AJW Powers, Seconded by Councillor PP Marsh)

In 2013 Herefordshire Council and other key local partners committed to the *Re-Energising Herefordshire* policy document, aiming to achieve an 80% carbon reduction on 1990 levels by 2050. This has led to much good work in many areas of the council's operation, and is on target after 5 years.

Now, in the light of the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change's 2018 Special Report *Global Warming of 1.5°C*, this Council should recognise:

- **The urgent need for action within the next 12 years, to avoid a climate crisis and to protect Herefordshire people from the consequences of irreversible climate change.**
- **The need to make its due contribution to the international effort to cut carbon emissions.**

That this Council resolves to declare its recognition of the climate emergency and calls on the executive to:

- a) Commit to an accelerated reduction of its own carbon emissions, with the aspirations to be carbon neutral by 2030; and to change its energy supply to 100% renewable source;**
- b) Produce a successor to the current Carbon Management Plan (2019-2023) within the early months of the new council;**
- c) Work with partners to produce an action plan, covering all relevant council strategies, and to submit this plan via Scrutiny to Cabinet by the end of 2019;**
- d) Call upon our 'Re-Energise' partners to match or better the council's commitment; to publicise their response and to lead on working with the public to promote and encourage carbon reduction in all aspects of the county's life; and**
- e) Provide the necessary resource for officers to deliver on the council's carbon reduction commitments, and to monitor and report annually on the county position.**

7 The constitution provides that the report to Council containing those notices of motion to be debated at the meeting will also include detail of progress of all outstanding resolutions. There is one outstanding resolution to provide an update of progress against, as below:

Date of meeting	Motion	Current Status
9 March 2018	Video Casting of Council Meetings	A decision to initiate a procurement process has been delegated to the level of officer decision. A procurement process will be undertaken and a further report will be produced, in the new Council term, to recommend the appointment of an approved supplier.

Community impact

- 8 Herefordshire Council's adopted code of corporate governance provides the framework for maintaining high standards of corporate governance in order to achieve the council's vision of "people, organisations and businesses working together to bring sustainable prosperity and well-being for all, in the outstanding natural environment of Herefordshire."
- 9 In accordance with the code, the long-term nature of many of Herefordshire Council's responsibilities mean that we should define and plan outcomes and that these should be sustainable. Decisions should further the council's purpose, contribute to intended benefits and outcomes, and remain within the limits of authority and resources. Input from all groups of stakeholders is vital to the success of this process and in balancing competing demands when determining priorities for the finite resources available.

Equality duty

- 10 Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

- 11 The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services. If any motion results in a request that the executive (cabinet) consider taking some action, the cabinet will have regard to the equality duty when determining its response to the request.

Resource implications

- 12 None arising from the recommendation; if any motion results in a request that the executive (cabinet) consider taking some action the implications of such action will inform any decision by cabinet.

Legal implications

- 13 None arising from the recommendation; if any motion results in a request that the executive (cabinet) consider taking some action the implications of such action will inform any decision by cabinet.

Risk management

- 14 None arising from the recommendation; if any motion results in a request that the executive (cabinet) take some action the risks associated with such action will inform any decision by cabinet.

Consultees

15 None.

Appendices – none

Background papers – none identified