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Democratic Support

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CITY COUNCIL SUPPLEMENT

Monday 25 November 2013

2pm

Council House (Next to the Civic Centre), Plymouth

Members:

The Lord Mayor, Councillor Mrs Pengelly, Chair

The Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Churchill, Vice Chair

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowie, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Casey, Coker, Damarell, Darcy, Philippa Davey, Sam Davey, Mrs Dolan, Drean, Evans, K Foster, Mrs Foster, Fox, Fry, Gordon, Haydon, James, Jarvis, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Sam Leaves, Lowry, Dr. Mahony, McDonald, Monahan, Morris, Murphy, Mrs Nelder, Nicholson, Mrs Nicholson, Parker, Penberthy, Rennie, Ricketts, Dr. Salter, Singh, John Smith, Peter Smith, Stark, Stevens, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Wogens, Williams and Wright.

I refer to the agenda for the above meeting and attach two further motions on notice for consideration under agenda item 13.

Tracey Lee

Chief Executive

CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA

PART I – PUBLIC MEETING

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

To consider motions from councillors in accordance with Part B, paragraph 14 of the Constitution.

13. FURTHER MOTIONS SUBMITTED

(Pages 1 - 4)

- (a) **Energy Market:**
To be moved by Councillor Bill Stevens and seconded by Councillor Kate Taylor.

- (b) **Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control:**
To be moved by Councillor Sue McDonald and seconded by Councillor Tudor Evans.

PART II (PRIVATE MEETING)

AGENDA

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO NOTE

that under the law, Council is entitled to consider certain items in private. Members of the public will be asked to leave the meeting when such items are discussed.

16. SENIOR MANAGEMENT RESTRUCTURE (EI)

TO FOLLOW

The Chief Executive will submit a report on the senior management structure.

CITY COUNCIL

25 November 2013



MOTION ON NOTICE

ENERGY MARKET

Plymouth City Council believes Britain's energy market isn't working for ordinary families and businesses in Plymouth and the cost of electricity and gas is crippling family finances. We regret that energy bills have risen by almost £300 for families since 2010 with businesses saying it's the second biggest cost they face, and are concerned that when the price of energy increases energy companies pass this on, but when it drops consumers don't see bills go down.

We note recent research by Which? estimating that market flaws have left consumers paying £3.9bn a year over the odds since 2010 and opposes the unfair price rises recently announced by the big energy companies including a 10.4% increase in Npower's dual-fuel bills from December, SSE increasing prices by 8.2% from 15th November, British Gas increasing prices by 9.2% on 23rd November and Scottish Power raising prices by 8.6% from 6th December. We believe these increases represent a rip-off for Plymothians and that the Conservative led Government is defending the big energy companies and not standing up for ordinary consumers.

It's for these reasons that Plymouth Energy was established, making energy more affordable for people across Plymouth.

We therefore welcome Ed Miliband's commitment to freeze energy bills for twenty months until 2017 upon the election of a Labour Government and congratulate Alison Seabeck MP for voting for this freeze on 6 November whilst Oliver Colvile MP and Gary Streeter MP voted against it.

Proposed by Councillor Bill Stevens

Seconded by Councillor Kate Taylor

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CITY COUNCIL

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MOTION ON NOTICE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DECLARATION ON TOBACCO CONTROL

It is acknowledged that:

- Smoking is the single greatest cause of premature death and disease in our communities;
- Reducing smoking in our communities significantly increases household incomes and benefits the local economy;
- Reducing smoking amongst the most disadvantaged in our communities is the single most important means of reducing health inequalities;
- Smoking is an addiction largely taken up by children and young people, two thirds of smokers start before the age of 18;
- Smoking is an epidemic created and sustained by the tobacco industry, which promotes uptake of smoking to replace the 80,000 people its products kill in England every year; and
- The illicit trade in tobacco funds the activities of organised criminal gangs and gives children access to cheap tobacco.

As local leaders in public health we welcome the:

- Opportunity for local government to lead local action to tackle smoking and secure the health, welfare, social, economic and environmental benefits that come from reducing smoking prevalence;

It is therefore recommended that the Council commits itself to:

- Act at a local level to reduce smoking prevalence and health inequalities and to raise the profile of the harm caused by smoking to our communities;
- Develop plans with our partners and local communities to address the causes and impacts of tobacco use;
- Participate in local and regional networks for support;
- Support the government in taking action at national level to help local authorities reduce smoking prevalence and health inequalities in our communities;
- Protect our tobacco control work from the commercial and vested interests of the tobacco industry by not accepting any partnerships, payments, gifts and services, monetary or in kind or research funding offered by the tobacco industry to officials or employees;

- Monitor the progress of our plans against our commitments and publish the results; and
- Publicly declare our commitment to reducing smoking in our communities by joining the Smokefree Action Coalition, the alliance of organisations working to reduce the harm caused by tobacco.

And invites all the City's Members of Parliament to sign this declaration too.

Proposed by Councillor Sue McDonald

Seconded by Councillor Tudor Evans