

# **MOTIONS AGREED AT CITY COUNCIL – 5 NOVEMBER 2019**

## **TACKLING PERIOD POVERTY AND RAISING PERIOD AWARENESS**

### **RESOLVED:-**

That the recommendations R01 to R06 be approved, and that the Executive be requested to pursue their implementation.

## **A34 PERRY BARR HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT SCHEME**

### **RESOLVED:-**

Council notes the petitions 2142 and 2156 submitted in support of the A34 Flyover. Pending the re-consideration of the Full Business Case for the scheme by Cabinet, following a call-in by the Sustainability and Transport Overview & Scrutiny Committee, the Council recommends that these petitions are discharged.

## **MOTIONS FOR DEBATE FROM INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS**

### **FIRST MOTION**

#### **RESOLVED:-**

The Council notes:

- That although the Equality Act 2010 has specifically clarified that it is unlawful to discriminate against a woman because she is breastfeeding a child, there is some way to go until this is accepted as the norm on all premises.
- That the medical evidence supports breastfeeding as the preferred option for both mother and baby, and that this view is endorsed by the British Medical Association and the World Health Organisation.
- That breastfeeding can protect babies from infections including sickness and diarrhoea, ear infections and chest infections, and help prevent juvenile onset diabetes and obesity.
- That evidence demonstrates that breastfeeding also leads to health benefits for mothers, including a reduction in the risk of developing breast cancer.
- That breastfeeding can counteract health inequalities; leaves no ecological footprint and saves money.
- That ultimately the decision whether or not to breastfeed must lie with the mother, and no action should be taken which may make mothers feel guilty if they are unable or choose not to breastfeed.

The Council believes that:

- Birmingham should be seen as a 'Breastfeeding Friendly' city and that it should be made clear to all mothers that breastfeeding is welcomed in all public areas.
- All women should be supported to feel confident and comfortable in breastfeeding their babies in line with WHO recommendations, to help babies (and mothers) to receive the benefits of breastfeeding.

The Council therefore resolves to:

- Continue to promote and support breastfeeding in the City through the BCC commissioned 'Birmingham Forward Steps' Early Years Service and the Birmingham and Solihull United Maternity and Newborn Partnership (BUMP), in line with the UK Unicef and WHO 'Baby Friendly Initiative'.
- Ensure that all Council premises are aware of their duty under the Equality Act 2010 not to discriminate against breastfeeding mothers and display signage to indicate that breastfeeding is welcome.
- Encourage businesses, third sector organisations, schools, colleges and educational establishments to display signage to indicate that breastfeeding is welcome.

## **SECOND MOTION**

### **RESOLVED:-**

This Council gives its full support to the Labour Party's plan for a 'Green Industrial Revolution', which includes a commitment to invest £2bn in the creation of Gigafactories across the country. This council will continue conversations with Rebecca Long-Bailey, Shadow Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy about how the development of Gigafactories and Labour's Green Industrial Revolution will directly support the creation of thousands of new jobs.

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