

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE FROM INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

To consider the following Motions of which notice has been given in accordance with Standing Order 4(1)

A. Councillors Lisa Trickett and Ian Ward have given notice of the following Notice of Motion:-

“Birmingham City Council notes that:

- For most workers in local government and schools, pay and other terms and conditions are determined by the National Joint Council (NJC) for local government services
- On average, across the country, NJC basic pay has fallen by 21% in real terms since 2010
- NJC workers had a three-year pay freeze from 2010-2012 and have received only 1% pay increase annually since then
- NJC pay is the lowest in the public sector
- Differentials in pay grades are being squeezed and distorted by bottom-loaded NJC pay settlements needed to reflect the increased Statutory National Living Wage
- The likelihood of rising inflation following the vote to leave the European Union will worsen the current public sector pay inequality.

The council therefore supports the NJC pay claim for 2018, submitted by UNISON, GMB and Unite on behalf of council and school workers and, noting the drastic ongoing cuts to local government funding, calls on the Government to provide all additional resources to ensure local authorities can fund a decent pay rise for NJC employees. NJC pay cannot be allowed to fall further behind other parts of the public sector

The council also welcomes the joint review of the NJC pay spine to remedy the turbulence caused by bottom-loaded pay settlements.

The council resolves to:

- Write to the LGA asking it to make urgent representations to Government to fund the NJC claim and the pay spine review
- Write to the Prime Minister and Chancellor supporting the NJC pay claim and seeking the additional resources needed to fund a decent pay rise and the pay spine review

Write to local NJC union representatives to convey support for the pay claim and the pay spine review."

B. Councillors Ewan Mackey and Matt Bennett have given notice of the following Notice of Motion:-

"This Council expresses alarm at the rise in anti-Semitism in recent years across the UK including incidents when criticism of Israel has been expressed using anti-Semitic tropes. Criticism of Israel can be legitimate, but not if it employs the tropes and imagery of anti-Semitism.

This Council therefore:

- Welcomes the UK Government's announcement on December 11th 2016 that it will sign up to the internationally recognised International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) guidelines;
- Commits to cross-party support within the Council for combating anti-Semitism in all its manifestations, especially within relation to those effected in our communities in Birmingham; and
- Adopts the below definition of anti-Semitism as set out by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance:

"Anti-Semitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of anti-Semitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities."

The guidelines highlight manifestations of anti-Semitism as including:

- Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.
- Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.
- Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.
- Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust).
- Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.
- Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.
- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavour.
- Applying double standards by requiring of it behaviour not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.

- Using the symbols and images associated with classic anti-Semitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.
- Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.”

C. Councillors Neil Eustace and Paul Tilsley have given notice of the following Notice of Motion:-

“Council regrets that the Boundary Commission for England (BCE) has again failed to come up with cohesive constituency boundaries for the city.

Council notes the refusal of the BCE to use the new ward boundaries that come into force next year. This would have helped avoid such anomalies as:

- Much of historic Yardley being placed outside Yardley constituency;
- The new Perry Barr ward being linked to the rest of the Erdington constituency solely by a portion of the new Aston ward, creating a “rabbit-eared” constituency;
- Oscott ward being linked to Walsall town centre and parts of northern Walsall;
- Handsworth Wood being placed in West Bromwich.

Using the new ward boundaries would ensure that the proposed constituency boundaries are more closely aligned to future projections of population.

Council agrees to lobby the government and the BCE for a more sensible approach, noting that BCE has attempted a wholesale revision of its earlier proposals for the city and noting that it would have been possible for the BCE to have used the new ward boundaries for the latest round of proposals, as the new ward boundaries were approved by Parliament on 23 November 2016.”