



COUNCIL - 5TH JUNE 2018

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF MOTION – RELOCATION OF THE CAERPHILLY DWP OFFICES

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR SOCIAL SERVICES AND HOUSING

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 Council is asked to consider the Notice of Motion as set out in Paragraph 4.1 of the report, and make an appropriate recommendation. In accordance with Rule 11 (3) of the Constitution, the Mayor has agreed to allow the motion to be dealt with at Council, without being first discussed at an overview and scrutiny committee.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 A Notice of Motion has been received from Councillor D.V. Poole and is supported by Councillors J. Pritchard, Mrs B. Jones, S. Morgan, C. Gordon, C. Cuss, Mrs E. Stenner, Mrs L. Phipps, N. George and Mrs P. Marsden.
- 2.2 The Notice of Motion meets the criteria set out in the Council's Constitution and in accordance with the Council's Rules of Procedure is now referred to Council for consideration.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The procedural rules regarding a Notice of Motion are contained within Council's Constitution as adopted in May 2002. The Council's Constitution sets out the framework for the decision making roles and responsibilities which will impact on future generations.

4. REPORT

- 4.1 Councillor D.V. Poole requests in his Notice of Motion:-

That Caerphilly County Borough Council requests the UK Government to reconsider the relocation of the Caerphilly DWP Offices and enter into meaningful discussions with PCS Trade Union. We further request that the Welsh Government supports the PCS's position.

- 4.2 The following information is provided by the Member in support of his notice of motion.

Reasons for the Motion

- 4.3 The Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) have announced that five of its offices across South Wales will close, with a total of 1,700 staff centralised at a new site on Treforest Industrial Estate. In addition to the Caerphilly Benefits Centre (225), office closures include Merthyr Benefit Centre (262 staff), Cwmbran Pension Centre (171 staff), Newport Benefit Centre (365 staff), Gabalfa Cardiff (714 staff). Although the Member appreciates that the DWP like local government are seeking to make changes to their operations in response to

ever increasing pressures placed on them from austerity measures imposed by Central Government is disappointed with the decision to relocate jobs out of Caerphilly Town and the implications the move will have on the sustainability of the town centre.

- 4.4 Due to the negative impact on the town centre the Member asks that this Council writes to UK Government to reconsider the relocation of the Caerphilly DWP Officers and enter into meaningful discussion with PCS Trade Unions and further to this, a request also be sent to Welsh Government to add their support to the PCS's position.

5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

- 5.1 The Notice of Motion is consistent with the five ways of working as defined within the act as it complies with the rules and regulations of the Council's Constitution which sets out a clear framework for how the Council operates in particular decision making responsibilities which will consider the positive and negative impacts on future generations, long term resilience, economic, environmental and social capital.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no specific equalities implications that directly affect the Council arising from the report.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no personnel implications associated with this report.

9. CONSULTATIONS

- 9.1 There has been no consultation undertaken.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 Council is asked to consider the Notice of Motion outlined in paragraph 4.1 above and make an appropriate recommendation.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 11.1 In accordance with the Council's Constitution.

Author: Emma Sullivan, Senior Committee Services Officer.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Signed copy of Notice of Motion

Notice of Motion


To consider the under-mentioned Notice of Motion standing in the name of County Borough Councillor David Vincent Poole support by Councillor James Pritchard, Councillor Barbara Jones, Councillor Sean Morgan, Councillor Colin Gordon, Councillor Carl Cuss, Councillor Eluned Stenner, Councillor Lisa Phipps, Councillor Nigel George and Councillor Philippa Marsden.

We the undersigned request that Caerphilly County Borough Council requests the UK Government to reconsider the relocation of the Caerphilly DWP Offices and enter into meaningful discussions with the PCS Trade Union. We further request that the Welsh Government supports the PCS's position.

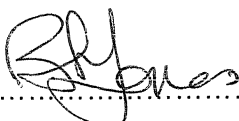
Councillor David Poole



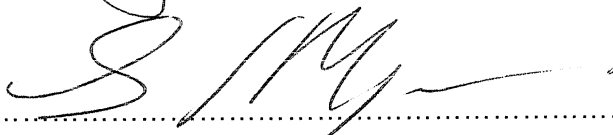
Councillor James Pritchard



Councillor Barbara Jones



Councillor Sean Morgan



Councillor Colin Gordon



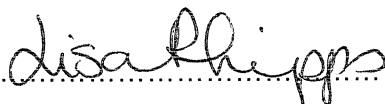
Councillor Carl Cuss



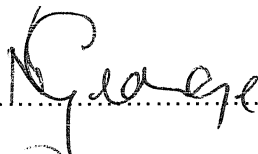
Councillor Eluned Stenner



Councillor Lisa Phipps



Councillor Nigel George



Councillor Philippa Marsden

