



COUNCIL – 26TH JANUARY 2022

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF MOTION – NATIONAL ENERGY CRISIS

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR EDUCATION AND CORPORATE SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 Council is asked to consider the Notice of Motion as set out in paragraph 5.1 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 in order to expedite business.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 A Notice of Motion has been received from Councillor P. Marsden and is supported by Councillors E.M. Aldworth, J. Pritchard, N. George, E. Stenner, A. Whitcombe, R. Whiting, S. Cook, M. Evans, C. Andrews, D. Havard, R. Saralis, W. David, S. Morgan, M. Adams, B. Miles, A. Collis, G. Kirby, A. Higgs, E. Forehead, J. Ridgewell, D. Price, C. Thomas, C. Bezzina, L. Jeremiah, A. Hussey, D. Harse, D. T. Davies, C. Forehead, W. Williams, T. J. Williams, G. Johnston, C. Mann, K. Etheridge. P. Leonard, D. Preece, A. Gair, A. Farina-Childs, C. Thomas, J. Stone, L. Harding, A. Leonard.
- 2.2 The Notice of Motion meets the criteria set out in the Council's Constitution and is in accordance with the Council's Rules of Procedure now referred to Scrutiny for consideration.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 Council are asked to consider the Notice of Motion outlined in paragraph 5.1 and make an appropriate recommendation.

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 In accordance with the Council's Constitution.

5. THE REPORT

5.1 **Notice of Motion**

This council recognises the unprecedented energy crisis facing many households across Caerphilly, Wales and the UK. In the coming months more and more households will see increases of a magnitude never seen before as the energy price cap is removed or energy deals come to an end.

This comes on top of a cost of living crisis created by the Impacts of Brexit and the Covid Pandemic which have already seen an unprecedented squeeze on people's incomes.

Inflation remains very high which is putting huge pressure on household budgets as earnings have not kept pace with prices, leaving family budgets squeezed and people worse off.

The additional costs of day to day living are already impacting negatively on every household across Caerphilly but even more so on families who are living close to the bread line many of whom still need to visit food banks and will now be faced with the terrible choice of heating their home or putting food on the table. This is Tory Britain.

As a Council, we will continue to do everything within our power to help mitigate energy costs by signposting residents to the number of financial support options available to improve the energy efficiency of residents homes as home owners as well as our significant investment in our Council homes to make them cheaper to heat and live in.

However, the help families need to deal with the cost of living crisis can only be fixed by decisive action by the UK Government.

Therefore this motion calls on Council to write to the Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer and call for the immediate implementation and action for the following :-

- A reduction in VAT for Energy Bills to help families and householders
- An introduction of a new lower price cap on energy bills to protect households from excessive price rises
- The implementation of grants or interest free loans to encourage the take up of renewable energy solutions such as domestic Solar / PV for private homeowners and local businesses

6. **ASSUMPTIONS**

- 6.1 As a notice of motion is a procedural matter and must be dealt with in accordance with Council's Constitution, no assumptions have been made.

7. **SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 7.1 This report does not require an Integrated Impact Assessment as it relates to a procedural matter under the Councils Constitution.

7.2 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.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no personnel implications associated with this report.

10. CONSULTATIONS

10.1 There has been no consultation undertaken.

11. STATUTORY POWER

11.1 Local Government Act 2000

Author: Emma Sullivan (Senior Committee Services Officer)

Appendices: Appendix 1 Signed copy of Notice of Motion.