



## COUNCIL – 23<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2023

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF MOTION – FOSTER FAMILY FRIENDLY EMPLOYER**

**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.

### 2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 A Notice of Motion has been received from Councillor E. Forehead and is supported by Councillor T. Heron and by Councillors N. George, P. Leonard, C. Andrews, S. Cook, C. Morgan, J. Simmonds, E. Stenner, J. Pritchard, S. Morgan.
- 2.2 The Notice of Motion met the criteria set out in the Council's Constitution and in accordance with the Council's Rules of Procedure was considered by the Social Services Committee at its meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

### 3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 Council are asked to consider the Notice of Motion as 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

In her notice of motion Councillor E. Forehead asks Council to consider making Caerphilly County Borough Council a Foster Family Friendly Employer, giving staff that foster children extra support in balancing their work and care responsibilities.

We are a local authority who can recognise the need for flexibility at work to meet the needs of foster children, which is why we are committed to supporting our colleagues who are foster carers.

We support this motion for our foster carers – as well as those who care for children of family or friends, such as a grandparent caring permanently for their grandchild – will be offered up to 5 days paid leave to attend training or meetings relating to their role as a carer.

Employees will also be entitled to additional unpaid time off work to deal with unexpected emergencies, such as welcoming a child into their home at short notice.

Becoming a foster friendly employer will strengthen the links that are needed to ensure we, as a local authority, show a strong corporate social responsibility.

- 5.2 In support of the notice of motion Councillor Forehead asks Council to note that Foster Carers play a vital role in safeguarding our most vulnerable children. They become the expert on the child they care for and are dedicated to supporting each child to their full potential. This can only happen with support and encouragement from their networks.

## **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 Council's 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.
- 7.3 However the outcome of the Notice of Motion and any subsequent reports arising from it may require an Integrated Impact Assessment.

## **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 The Notice of Motion was considered by the Social Services Scrutiny Committee on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 and unanimously recommended to Council that the Notice of

Motion be supported.

**11. STATUTORY POWER**

11.1 Local Government Act 2000

Author: Lisa Lane Head of Democratic Services and Deputy Monitoring Officer

Appendices: Appendix 1 Signed copy of the Amended Notice of Motion.