Council, Tuesday 14 September 2010

Motion 3.7: Councillor Ross Houston

Security of Tenure for Social Housing Tenants

Council notes the comments made by David Cameron that fixed tenancies of between 5 and 10 years for social housing tenants may be introduced by the ConDem government.

Council believes that abandoning security of tenure would destroy Barnet's sustainable communities, turning them into "transit camps", would adversely impact some of the poorest in our community, and, perversely, would provide an incentive for people who believed they may lose their home, to remain in poverty – in complete contradiction of the ConDem government's supposed aim to tackle the poverty trap.

Council condemns this ill-thought through policy, and asks Cabinet to write to the Prime Minister and Secretary of State outlining their opposition to it.

Council asks Cabinet to re-double its efforts to build more affordable homes for ordinary Barnet residents – which is the best solution to tackling the housing crisis.

Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 31.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.