

<b><u>MEETING</u></b>
<b>COUNCIL</b>
<b><u>DATE AND TIME</u></b>
<b>TUESDAY 19TH JANUARY, 2021</b>
<b>AT 7.00 PM</b>
<b><u>VENUE</u></b>
<b>VIRTUAL MEETING</b>

Dear Councillors,

Please find enclosed additional papers relating to the following items for the above mentioned meeting which were not available at the time of collation of the agenda.

Item No	Title of Report	Pages
14.1	ADMINISTRATION MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR ROBERTO WEEDEN-SANZ - OPPOSING LOW TRAFFIC NEIGHBOURHOODS AND ADDITIONAL DRIVING LEVIES	3 - 4
14.2	OPPOSITION MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR ALAN SCHNEIDERMAN - PROTECTING OUR PARKS AND GREEN SPACES	5 - 8
14.3	ADMINISTRATION MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR SARAH WARDLE - DEALING WITH DANGEROUS CLADDING	9 - 12
14.4	OPPOSITION MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR ARJUN MITTRA - COMMONWEALTH AND VETERANS' SUPPORT	13 - 14
14.5	ADMINISTRATION MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR DANIEL THOMAS - FIGHTING FOOD INSECURITY IN BARNET	15 - 18
14.6	OPPOSITION MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR BARRY RAWLINGS - KEEP THE £20 A WEEK UNIVERSAL CREDIT UPLIFT	19 - 22
14.7	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT MOTION IN HE NAME OF COUNCILLOR JESS BRAYNE - STAND UP FOR CARERS - INCREASING CARER'S ALLOWANCE	23 - 24

Abigail Lewis [abigail.lewis@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:abigail.lewis@barnet.gov.uk) 020 8359 4369

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Amendment to Administration Motion 14.1 in the name of Councillor Roberto Weeden-Sanz 'Opposing Low Traffic Neighbourhoods and Additional Driving Levies' AGENDA ITEM 14.1

Amendment in the name of Councillor Kath McGuirk

Delete all and replace with **(additions in bold)**:

Council notes that:

1. **Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) are a policy included in LB Barnet's Long Term Transport Strategy.**
2. **LB Barnet wrote to TfL requesting the funding for the LTN schemes in Colindale, Cricklewood and Brunswick Park.**
3. **Cllr Roberto Weeden-Sanz doesn't seem to know this.**
4. **Some LTN schemes have caused traffic concerns, and in places there is not a consensus amongst residents.**
5. **The Conservative Government imposed plan to extend the Congestion Charge was flatly refused by the Mayor of London and would have had the greatest negative impact on the poorest in our borough and across London if it had gone ahead.**

Council resolves to:

1. Not impose any LTNs on Barnet residents.
2. **Write to the Conservative Government calling on them to ensure TfL has a fair settlement that reflects the real transport costs and needs of our Capital City - including the reinstatement of the operating grant to TfL that Boris Johnson surrendered in 2015 and allowing London to keep the £500m per year vehicle excise duty raised in London but used to maintain roads outside the capital, to enable TfL to recover and operate a sustainable business plan that does not result in a new charge for those entering London, or an increase or extension in the Congestion Charge – which would financially harm Barnet's residents and businesses.**

[Under Full Council Procedure Rule 17.17: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.]

Motion should now read:

Administration Motion in the name of Councillor Roberto Weeden-Sanz

Amended by Councillor Kath McGuirk

**Opposing Low Traffic Neighbourhoods and Additional Driving Levies**

Council notes that:

1. Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) are a policy included in LB Barnet's Long Term Transport Strategy.
2. LB Barnet wrote to TfL requesting the funding for the LTN schemes in Colindale, Cricklewood and Brunswick Park.
3. Cllr Roberto Weeden-Sanz doesn't seem to know this.
4. Some LTN schemes have caused traffic concerns, and in places there is not a consensus amongst residents.
5. The Conservative Government imposed plan to extend the Congestion Charge was flatly refused by the Mayor of London and would have had the greatest negative impact on the poorest in our borough and across London if it had gone ahead.

Council resolves to:

1. Not impose any LTNs on Barnet residents.
2. Write to the Conservative Government calling on them to ensure TfL has a fair settlement that reflects the real transport costs and needs of our Capital City - including the reinstatement of the operating grant to TfL that Boris Johnson surrendered in 2015 and allowing London to keep the £500m per year vehicle excise duty raised in London but used to maintain roads outside the capital, to enable TfL to recover and operate a sustainable business plan that does not result in a new charge for those entering London, or an increase or extension in the Congestion Charge – which would financially harm Barnet's residents and businesses.

Under Full Council Procedure Rule 17.17: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

Amendment to Opposition Motion in the name of Councillor Alan Schneiderman  
'Protecting our Parks and Green Spaces'

AGENDA ITEM 14.2

Amendment in the name of Councillor Anne Clarke

Delete all and replace with **(additions in bold)**:

Council notes just how important it has been, for residents' health and wellbeing, to have access to parks and green spaces during the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Council notes the Conservative administration's plan to look at restricting access and reducing space in up to 45 parks and green spaces in Barnet that they deem to be 'low quality / low value' - a category they invented back in 2016 to justify why some parks wouldn't get as much maintenance money as other parks.**

**Council notes that this list of parks and green spaces includes Basing Hill Park, Bittacy Hill Park, Elm Park. Woodhouse Open Space and many others that are the only nearby green space for some people.**

**Council opposes this plan to restrict access to and reduce space in our parks and green spaces and instructs Environment Committee to scrap the proposal.**

Council resolves to continue to protect all Barnet's parks and green spaces.

Under Full Council Procedure Rule 17.17: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

Motion should now read:

Opposition Motion in the name of Councillor Alan Schneiderman  
Amended by Councillor Anne Clarke

**Protecting our Parks and Green Spaces.**

Council notes just how important it has been, for residents' health and wellbeing, to have access to parks and green spaces during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Council notes the Conservative administration's plan to look at restricting access and reducing space in up to 45 parks and green spaces in Barnet that they deem to be 'low quality / low value' - a category they invented back in 2016 to justify why some parks wouldn't get as much maintenance money as other parks.

Council notes that this list of parks and green spaces includes Basing Hill Park, Bittacy Hill Park, Elm Park. Woodhouse Open Space and many others that are the only nearby green space for some people.

Council opposes this plan to restrict access to and reduce space in our parks and green spaces and instructs Environment Committee to scrap the proposal.

Council resolves to continue to protect all Barnet's parks and green spaces.

Under Full Council Procedure Rule 17.17: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

Amendment to Opposition Motion in the name of Councillor Alan Schneiderman  
'Protecting our Parks and Green Spaces'

Amendment in the name of Councillor Dean Cohen

Add to the following text:

Add to Council notes:

2. That the Council has invested in parks across the borough over the past few years – with Montrose and Silverstream as great examples for what a green space should look like in the borough.
3. That the Council opened the new Exploratory Park, a part of the Council's Brent Cross town development, in mid-August – giving our residents even more green space to access during the pandemic.

Motion should now read:

Opposition Motion in the name of Councillor Alan Schneiderman  
Amended by Councillor Dean Cohen

**Protecting our Parks and Green Spaces.**

Council notes:

1. Just how important it has been, for residents' health and wellbeing, to have access to parks and green spaces during the Covid-19 pandemic.
2. That the Council has invested in parks across the borough over the past few years – with Montrose and Silverstream as great examples for what a green space should look like in the borough.
3. That the Council opened the new Exploratory Park, a part of the Council's Brent Cross town development, in mid-August – giving our residents even more green space to access during the pandemic.

Council resolves:

1. To continue to protect all Barnet's parks and green spaces.

Under Full Council Procedure Rule 17.17: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

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Amendment in the name of Councillor Anne Clarke

Delete all and replace with **(additions in bold)**:

Council notes that:

1. There is a national issue whereby some buildings were clad with materials that are dangerous and have now been banned, including several within Barnet.
2. Dangerous cladding has led to catastrophes in the UK, such as the fire in Grenfell Tower of 2017.
3. In light of the Grenfell fire, the Council set aside £30million to improve fire safety measures across its housing stock. The Council swiftly assessed our Council-owned blocks and took the necessary action to support residents, with £7million being spent to replace cladding on three local tower blocks.
4. Inside Housing published "10 steps to End Our Cladding Scandal", based on the recommendations of the Housing, Communities and Local Government Select Committee.

Council believes that:

People should feel safe in their own homes, and it is unacceptable for any people to live in homes that are dangerously clad. Residents who bought new-build flats should not have to pay for remedial works to address cladding safety.

Council **welcomes the endorsement of the Inside Housing / End Our Cladding Scandal campaign by the administration and** resolves to:

1. Support Inside Housing's 10 steps that must be taken to End Our Cladding Scandal:
  - a. The government must lead an urgent national effort to remove all dangerous cladding from buildings by June 2022.
  - b. The Building Safety Fund must cover all buildings, regardless of height, and a range of internal and external fire safety defects, not just cladding.
  - c. The government should provide the money up front and then seek to recover it from any responsible parties or via a temporary levy on development.
  - d. Social housing providers must have full and equal access to the fund.
  - e. The government must compel building owners or managers to be honest with residents about fire safety defects.
  - f. The government should cover the cost of interim safety measures.
  - g. The government should act as an insurer of last resort and underwrite insurance where premiums have soared.

- h. A fairer, faster process is needed to replace the EWS form and funding is necessary to ensure all buildings requiring a form are surveyed within 12 months.
- i. Mental health support must be offered to affected residents.
- j. Protecting residents from historic and future costs must be a key commitment of new building safety legislation.

**Council resolves to request all three Group Leaders on Barnet Council to jointly write to the Government calling on them to act on the Inside Housing / End Our Cladding Scandal campaign's 10 steps.**

[Under Full Council Procedure Rule 17.17: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.]

Motion should now read:

Administration Motion in the name of Councillor Sarah Wardle

Amended by Councillor Anne Clarke

**Dealing with Dangerous Cladding**

Council notes that:

1. There is a national issue whereby some buildings were clad with materials that are dangerous and have now been banned, including several within Barnet.
2. Dangerous cladding has led to catastrophes in the UK, such as the fire in Grenfell Tower of 2017.
3. In light of the Grenfell fire, the Council set aside £30million to improve fire safety measures across its housing stock. The Council swiftly assessed our Council-owned blocks and took the necessary action to support residents, with £7million being spent to replace cladding on three local tower blocks.
4. Inside Housing published “10 steps to End Our Cladding Scandal”, based on the recommendations of the Housing, Communities and Local Government Select Committee.

Council believes that:

People should feel safe in their own homes, and it is unacceptable for any people to live in homes that are dangerously clad. Residents who bought new-build flats should not have to pay for remedial works to address cladding safety.

Council welcomes the endorsement of the Inside Housing / End Our Cladding Scandal campaign by the administration and resolves to:

1. Support Inside Housing's 10 steps that must be taken to End Our Cladding Scandal:
  - a. The government must lead an urgent national effort to remove all dangerous cladding from buildings by June 2022.
  - b. The Building Safety Fund must cover all buildings, regardless of height, and a range of internal and external fire safety defects, not just cladding.
  - c. The government should provide the money up front and then seek to recover it from any responsible parties or via a temporary levy on development.
  - d. Social housing providers must have full and equal access to the fund.
  - e. The government must compel building owners or managers to be honest with residents about fire safety defects.
  - f. The government should cover the cost of interim safety measures.
  - g. The government should act as an insurer of last resort and underwrite insurance where premiums have soared.
  - h. A fairer, faster process is needed to replace the EWS form and funding is necessary to ensure all buildings requiring a form are surveyed within 12 months.
  - i. Mental health support must be offered to affected residents.
  - j. Protecting residents from historic and future costs must be a key commitment of new building safety legislation.

Council resolves to request all three Group Leaders on Barnet Council to jointly write to the Government calling on them to act on the Inside Housing / End Our Cladding Scandal campaign's 10 steps.

Under Full Council Procedure Rule 17.17: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

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Amendment to Opposition Motion in the name of Councillor Arjun Mitra  
'Commonwealth and Veterans' Support'

AGENDA ITEM 14.4

Amendment in the name of Councillor Lachhya Gurung

Edit "Council notes":

2. should be edited to read:

"Commonwealth veterans are supposed to receive indefinite leave to remain in the UK, however, when their service is complete many are left with extortionate charges to do so."

Motion should now read:

Opposition Motion in the name of Councillor Arjun Mitra  
Amended by Councillor Lachhya Gurung

**Commonwealth and Veterans' Support**

Council notes:

1. Commonwealth veterans have a long and proud history of service in the British military. From World War II to recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, Commonwealth veterans have served with distinction alongside British born veterans.
2. Commonwealth veterans are supposed to receive indefinite leave to remain in the UK, however, when their service is complete many are left with extortionate charges to do so.
3. Fees for indefinite leave to remain have also dramatically increased. Since 2015, fees have increased by nearly 127% from £1051 - £2381 with a family of four having to pay nearly £10000 to remain in the UK. This doesn't include associated legal fees that some who have struggled with immigration applications may need to pay. This has led to many facing spiralling debt and uncertain immigration status with the very real prospect of deportation. Whilst their applications are ongoing commonwealth veterans are also unable to seek employment or claim benefits.

Council believes:

1. This is poor reward for people persuaded to leave their countries in order to serve in the British armed forces and put their lives on the line in the service of this country.

Council resolves to:

1. Make Barnet's armed forces champions and lead officers aware of the difficulties experienced by commonwealth veterans and ensure that those who are currently experiencing problems, whether financial or immigration difficulties, are not disadvantaged whilst their applications are ongoing.
2. Council also asks the Leaders of all three political Groups to write to the Prime Minister, the minister of state for immigration, and the minister of state for veterans' affairs outlining Council's support for all commonwealth veterans who have served a minimum of 4 years to be granted automatic and free of charge right to remain in the UK and that any veteran who completes 12 years of service to be automatically given British Citizenship.
3. Council also asks the Leaders of all three political Groups to write to all three Barnet MPs to ask them to press the Government for a change in the legislation as set out above.

Under Full Council Procedure Rule 17.17: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

Amendment in the name of Councillor Sara Conway

Delete all and replace with **(additions in bold)**:

Council's vision for food security in Barnet is that:

1. All residents, at all times, have access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs for an active and healthy life. We want to ensure people have such access consistently and reliably without having to **resort to emergency measures that have a detrimental impact on their human dignity.**

Council believes that:

1. Covid has created unprecedented challenges for residents across the borough and impacted on access to food for various reasons such as shielding, the inability to book online delivery slots and fear of supermarket visits and an increase in unemployment.
2. The Council should help those most vulnerable tackle the underlying causes of food insecurity, minimise its health impacts and support our **amazing** voluntary and community sector **including the many community, faith groups and businesses who responded so brilliantly and continue to do so by providing high quality food and money donations** in this area to **plug the Government and Council gap, including in the October half-term.**

Council notes that:

1. The Council has been combatting food insecurity for years, having established a Working Group in 2017, and signing off an action plan in 2019. This action plan has now been amended in light of the Covid pandemic.
2. At the beginning of the pandemic outbreak, the Council set up an Essential Supplies Hub that provided food and other essentials to vulnerable individuals and families across the borough.
3. The Council has continued to support foodbanks throughout the pandemic, with a particular emphasis on ensuring good supply during school holidays.
4. The Council was allocated almost £1million from the Government's Covid Winter Grant Scheme. 80% of this grant went to providing meal vouchers for children and families, to ensure no children went hungry over the school holidays, while the remainder was allocated to supporting other vulnerable residents across Barnet.

5. Over 650 people volunteered to support our Essential Supplies Hub, helping to support those in need and to fight food insecurity.
6. Should a food bank be forced to close due to extenuating circumstances, the Council has contingency plans to ensure a continued supply.
7. To ensure the long-term sustainability of Barnet's local food aid providers, we are providing them with links to resources to attract new direct donations, in addition to resources provided via the Essential Supplies Hub. As part of this, Young Barnet Foundation (YBF) is currently running a campaign to encourage donations directly to foodbanks.

Council resolves to:

1. Produce a new food security action plan.
2. Continue working to ensure that future emergency plans incorporate food security.
3. Place an even greater emphasis on tackling the underlying causes of food insecurity.
4. Thank all Barnet residents and community groups who have helped fight food insecurity in our borough by supporting our food banks, volunteering with our supplies hub and more.

Under Full Council Procedure Rule 17.17: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

Motion should now read:

Administration Motion in the name of Councillor Daniel Thomas  
Amendment in the name of Councillor Sara Conway

Council's vision for food security in Barnet is that:

1. All residents, at all times, have access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs for an active and healthy life. We want to ensure people have such access consistently and reliably without having to resort to emergency measures that have a detrimental impact on their human dignity.

Council believes that:

1. Covid has created unprecedented challenges for residents across the borough and impacted on access to food for various reasons such as shielding, the

inability to book online delivery slots and fear of supermarket visits and an increase in unemployment.

2. The Council should help those most vulnerable tackle the underlying causes of food insecurity, minimise its health impacts and support our amazing voluntary and community sector including the many community, faith groups and businesses who responded so brilliantly and continue to do so by providing high quality food and money donations in this area to plug the Government and Council gap, including in the October half-term.

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2. Continue working to ensure that future emergency plans incorporate food security.
3. Place an even greater emphasis on tackling the underlying causes of food insecurity.

4. Thank all Barnet residents and community groups who have helped fight food insecurity in our borough by supporting our food banks, volunteering with our supplies hub and more.

Under Full Council Procedure Rule 17.17: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

Amendment to Opposition Motion in the name of Councillor Barry Rawlings 'Keep the £20 a Week Universal Credit Uplift

AGENDA ITEM 14.6

Amendment in the name of Councillor Sachin Rajput

Replace bullet points with numbers throughout

Replace "This Council notes":

- In April the Government plans to cut the benefit level for millions of claimants by ending the time limited increase to the basic rate of Universal Credit (and the tax credit equivalent) announced by the Chancellor on 20th March as part of his pandemic response package.
- The £20 a week boost reflected the reality that the level of benefits were not adequate to protect the swiftly increasing number of households relying on them as the crisis hit. Exactly because that increase was a very significant and welcome move to bolster low- and middle-income families' living standards, its removal will be a huge loss.
- Pressing ahead would see the level of unemployment support fall to its lowest real-terms level since 1990-91, and its lowest ever relative to average earnings. Indeed, the basic level of out-of-work support prior to the March boost was – at £73 a week (£3,800 a year) – less than half the absolute poverty line.

With

1. Announced on the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020 as part of his pandemic response package, the Chancellor of the Exchequer created a time-limited increase to the basic rate of Universal Credit (and the tax credit equivalent). This gave millions of people across the UK extra money to help them through the expected period of financial hardship brought on by the Covid pandemic.
2. The Government's time-limited increase to the Universal Credit is due to expire in April.
3. The £20 a week boost reflected the reality that the level of benefits were not adequate to protect the swiftly increasing number of households relying on them as the crisis hit. This was a very significant and welcome move to bolster low- and middle-income families' living standards.

Add:

This Council believes:

1. Covid pandemic relief must not be used as an ideological excuse to increase future reliance on the welfare state.

Replace “Council revolves to”:

- Write to the Chancellor, Rishi Sunak and to the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson demanding that the £20 increase to Universal Credit is made permanent and extended to claimants on legacy benefits.
- Work with other local government organisations to form a coalition to pressure the Government to make the £20 increase to Universal Credit permanent.

With

1. Write to the Chancellor to request that he considers extending the period in which the uplift is granted if Covid challenges continue for longer than expected at the introduction of the benefit.

Motion should now read:

Opposition Motion in the name of Councillor Barry Rawlings  
Amended by Councillor Sachin Rajput

**Keep the £20 a Week Universal Credit Uplift**

This Council notes:

1. Announced on the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020 as part of his pandemic response package, the Chancellor of the Exchequer created a time-limited increase to the basic rate of Universal Credit (and the tax credit equivalent). This gave millions of people across the UK extra money to help them through the expected period of financial hardship brought on by the Covid pandemic.
2. The Government’s time-limited increase to the Universal Credit is due to expire in April.
3. The £20 a week boost reflected the reality that the level of benefits were not adequate to protect the swiftly increasing number of households relying on them as the crisis hit. This was a very significant and welcome move to bolster low- and middle-income families' living standards.
4. The increase in benefits has had a positive effect on the lives of thousands of local claimants who are better able to pay for life’s essentials such as food, clothing and utilities.
5. It must be recognised that these are exceptional measures, which will have to be phased out at the appropriate time.

This Council believes:

1. Covid pandemic relief must not be used as an ideological excuse to increase future reliance on the welfare state.

Council resolves to:

1. Write to the Chancellor to request that he considers extending the period in which the uplift is granted if Covid challenges continue for longer than expected at the introduction of the benefit.

Under Full Council Procedure Rule 17.17: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

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Amendment in the name of Councillor Sachin Rajput

Replace "Council Resolves to":

1. Call on the Leader to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, urging them to increase Carer's Allowance by £1,000 a year, from its current rate of £67.25 a week to £87.25, in line with the £20 a week uplift in Universal Credit, including those who do not receive the Allowance due to overlapping benefits and with equivalent increase in Carer Premium and Carer Addition.

with

1. Call on the Leader to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer:
  - a. Emphasising that Covid has highlighted the importance of the carer's allowance.
  - b. Requesting that the Treasury investigate what could be done to recognise those who provide care to family members in the future.

Motion should now read:

Liberal Democrat Group motion in the name of Councillor Jess Brayne  
Amended by Councillor Sachin Rajput

### **Stand up for Carers - Increasing Carer's Allowance**

The pandemic has highlighted the invaluable role of Barnet's carers, both those employed in the care sector and unpaid people who care for family members. Carers in Barnet have been at the forefront of the coronavirus pandemic response and continue to do a selfless and remarkable job in very difficult circumstances.

Situations provoking care interventions can happen with little warning. Often those giving care have to reduce their working hours or give up work to juggle competing demands. The pressures on young carers can negatively impact on their experiences and outcomes in education, having a lasting effect on their life chances. Many carers in Barnet are unaware of their entitlement to financial support, a carers assessment or break, and the support services available.

Council notes that:

1. There are approximately 6.5 million volunteers in the UK who look after a family member or friend who is elderly or has a disability, or a mental or physical illness.

2. Many people who provide care do not recognise themselves as a 'carer'. The latest government figures show that 4,784 unpaid carers in Barnet are entitled to receive Carer's Allowance, although only 3,695 currently do.
3. At just £67.25 a week; Carer's Allowance is the lowest benefit of its kind.
4. In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Government increased the Universal Credit standard allowance and the Working Tax Credit basic element by £20 a week above the planned uprating in April 2020, but it has not increased Carer's Allowance.

Council resolves to:

1. Call on the Leader to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer
  - a. Emphasising that Covid has highlighted the importance of the carer's allowance.
  - b. Requesting that the Treasury investigate what could be done to recognise those who provide care to family members in the future.

Under Full Council Procedure Rule 17.17: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.