

## **Council meeting, 1 November 2022**

### **Amendment to Administration Motion in the name of Cllr Simon Radford: Cllr Daniel Thomas**

#### **Impact of the mini-budget on the cost-of-living crisis**

#### **Delete all and replace with:**

##### Council notes:

1. The rising cost of living is due to worldwide post-pandemic inflationary pressures and war in Ukraine. These pressures led to the September 'mini-budget'
2. The Government is expected to make further announcements on assistance to households and other measures to support the economy in its full Autumn Statement.
3. The mini-budget's impact on the cost-of-living was to introduce and reinforce measures that would support Barnet residents. The Government – in this mini-budget and through other policy - has committed to help households in many ways, for instance:
  - a. By creating the Energy Price Guarantee
  - b. Through the Cost-of-Living Payment
  - c. Through the Energy Rebate Scheme
  - d. By doubling the Energy Bills Support Scheme
    - i. This is available as a grant, not a loan
  - e. Through a one-off £300 Pensioner Cost of Living Payment
  - f. With a £150 Disability Cost of Living Payment
  - g. By increasing and extending the Household Support Fund by some £500m
4. This council has always set aside substantial resources to support those most in need.
5. The new Labour administration in Barnet wants to hit residents and businesses with higher parking and garden waste charges.
6. The Government is due to make a further statements on assistance to households and other measure to support the economy.

##### Council believes:

1. Alongside government assistance, through the mini-budget and other fiscal events, local authorities can have a huge impact – both supportive and detrimental to the cost-of-living for residents.

- a. The new Labour administration in Barnet wants to hit residents and businesses with higher parking and garden waste charges, despite the current cost-of-living crisis.
2. Note the mini-budget, which aimed to alleviate some pressures of the cost-of-living crisis
  - a. Instruct the Leader to write to the Government and Barnet's three MPs with constructive suggestions of how they may be able to further assist councils during this cost-of-living crisis.
  - b. Make savings in order to freeze council tax next year in order to assist residents' personal finances in this difficult time.
  - c. Scrap plans to increase parking and garden waste charges to support those struggling during the cost-of-living crisis.

Council therefore resolves to:

Note the mini-budget, which aimed to alleviate some pressures of the cost-of-living crisis

- a. Instruct the Leader to write to the Government and Barnet's three MPs with constructive suggestions of how they may be able to further assist councils during this cost-of-living crisis.
- b. Make savings in order to freeze council tax next year in order to assist residents' personal finances in this difficult time.
- c. Scrap plans to increase parking and garden waste charges to support those struggling during the cost-of-living crisis.