

MOTIONS

8.1 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR MAJOR

This Council recognises that Social and Affordable housing offers the stability and security that many Hillingdon residents desperately need. It offers a platform for our residents to achieve their aspirations and the below market rates at which this housing is available, make it easier for our residents to move into work.

This Council notes:

- That item 6, Council's Budget MTF (page 74, paragraph 29) clearly states; "This pressure on supply has arisen from properties being taken by private tenants unable to buy properties and from other local London authorities offering higher incentives to landlords. In addition, foreign buyers are acquiring London properties, sustaining house prices at levels that are unaffordable for local residents. Within this context of diminishing supply, the Council has to house people in much more expensive Bed and Breakfast (B&B) accommodation to meet statutory obligations."
- The additional £9 million borrowing headroom in the Council's Housing Revenue Account.
- The Government's Autumn Statement, which committed to increasing the Housing Revenue Account borrowing limit by £300 million.
- The annual cost to London Borough of Hillingdon tax payers of housing residents in Bed and Breakfast accommodation is at least £1,980,000.

This Council recognises that:

- Having a decent and energy efficient home is a fundamental necessity for all Hillingdon residents.
- There are currently 3,325 residents in priority need for housing and a further 513 households in temporary accommodation including 231 in Bed and Breakfast accommodation.
- The Borough's housing strategy calls for 2,625 affordable homes to be built every year for the next five years to meet demand.

Therefore the Council is called upon to:

- Work on a cross party basis to find solutions to tackle this rapidly developing crisis in the best interest of all our residents, which will consider, but not be limited to, the following: an emergency programme of Council House building; a no evictions pledge on Bedroom and Benefit caps basis; a fully updated inventory of empty properties and a halt to moving residents out of the Borough.
- Set up a public consultation into the housing crisis that affects all our residents so can develop a residents' led approach and put their needs first.

8.2 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR CURLING

Council notes the publication of the interim Davies report into aviation and the subsequent resurrection of plans to build a 3rd runway at Heathrow. Council therefore reaffirms its opposition to any further expansion of Heathrow, but also recognises the importance of its continued operation, especially with so many local residents being employed either by the airport itself or the many dependent industries located in this part of West London.

Council therefore calls on the Leader of the Council and his Cabinet to, not only support the opposition to Heathrow expansion, but to also continue the campaign for a "Better Heathrow Airport, Not a Bigger Heathrow Airport" and to use this to lobby the current and next Government, of whatever political colour, to make a sensible decision that takes into account the benefits of having both hub and point to point capacity utilising the 7 runways that already service London.