

COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2017

NOTICE OF MOTION

That this Council:

- 1) Notes remarks made by the Leader of the Council during 2016 on the level of Council Tax levy in 2017/18 and to engage in a consultation with the public:

‘Now, if residents tell us they want to pay more council tax I am happy to go along with that.

‘For me it is what the residents want that counts. I will be fully consulting residents on next year’s budget and if they tell me they want to pay more, in the light of demographic changes, then I will follow their lead.

‘I was elected to serve local residents and that is what I will do’

(Leader’s Speech - Budget Council Meeting, 2 March 2016)

and

- 2) That in respect of the consultation process:

‘...we will consult residents and members handed it all over, in the way they should, at arm’s length to ensure unbiased consultation, in keeping with Cabinet Office criteria on consultation.

‘That’s exactly what I have done.’

(Councillors’ Questions – Council Meeting, 14 September 2016)

and

- 3) With regard to his Administration:

‘In Labour we believe in straight talking, honest politics. Some people think we should try and weasel our way out of it but that is not the new politics we practise here’

(Leader’s Speech - Budget Council Meeting, 2 March 2016)

In consequence and as no mention was made at Cabinet on 16 January 2017 of a Labour Party Press release dated 10 January 2017 with its implications for the raising of an Adult Social Care (ASC) precept arising out of the Consultation, the Council resolves now its intent that the maximum permitted increase in the ASC precept is inserted into its budget for 2017/18 and the MTFS for 2018/19 when the Cabinet’s recommendations are brought to its Budget setting meeting on 1 March 2017 - to allay the fears of our vulnerable and elderly residents and re-assure them that the Council cares for their needs by maximising its available resources.

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