

POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: 8TH SEPTEMBER 2022
NOTICE OF MOTION TO FULL COUNCIL HELD ON 20TH JULY 2022

16. TO CONSIDER MOTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 4, COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES, PARAGRAPH 11 OF THE CONSTITUTION

(a) To consider the following notice of motion from Councillor Topham.

Councillor Topham presented her notice of motion to Council.

It was moved by Councillor Topham and seconded by Councillor Walker “that the notice of motion be adopted”.

Following Council debate, Councillor Topham as mover and Councillor Walker as seconder of the motion amended the motion to also include “that benefits training be provided for all Councillors to enable Councillors to signpost ward constituents appropriately and that the types of support available be considered by the Policy Development Committee.”

RESOLVED that this Council therefore declares a ‘Cost of Living Emergency’ and:

(a) instructs the Leader of the Council to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to:

1. Welcome the imposition of the ‘Windfall Tax’ on the super profits of oil and gas companies and question whether this has gone far enough.
2. Immediately reduce the standard rate of VAT from 20% to 17.5% for at least one year, saving the average family £600.
3. Introduce a fuel rebate scheme for rural areas like North Devon with, for example, extending the discount scheme for rural garages which has been successful at Lynton (Barbrook).
4. Extend free school meals to all those families on universal credit.
5. Extend the cost of living payment of £650 to those on legacy and contributions based benefits as people on these benefits have higher costs of living already due to long term health conditions or disability.

(b) that benefits training be provided for all Councillors to enable Councillors To signpost ward constituents appropriately and that the types of support available be considered by the Policy Development Committee.