

COUNCIL		
Report Title	Motions	
Key Decision		Item No.
Ward		
Contributors	Chief Executive (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: March 2 2022

Motion 1 Food Poverty

Proposer: Cllr Muldoon; Seconder: Cllr Howard

Lewisham Council congratulates the 2021 Labour Party Conference for unanimously calling for right to food to be enshrined in UK law and that the Labour Party embeds a right to food policy in its next General Election manifesto. We also note the Mayor of London (in his London Food Plan 2018) requests boroughs to consider ‘the collective right to a fair and sustainable food system’.

Given that the recommendations for the National Food Strategy omits the right to food, and the White Paper is imminent, we request that officers prepare a report for a future meeting of the Mayor & Cabinet to consider that addresses the possibility of Lewisham Council to:

1. Become a ‘Right to Food borough’
2. Join [the Right to Food campaign](#)
3. Call on local MPs and Mayor Damien Egan, to write to the relevant Minister to call for the right to food to be incorporated into the National Food Strategy White Paper.
4. Develop the new Local Food Poverty Action Plan using a rights-based approach (right to food strategy).
5. Appoints a Cabinet Member to oversee the right to food strategy.

Motion 2 Homelessness Motion

Proposer: Cllr Bernards; Seconder: Cllr Hall

Lewisham Council notes that thousands of families are facing evictions and repossessions as measures to protect families put in place during COVID have ended. Not only that as Universal Credit is reduced; the furlough scheme ends; and electricity and gas prices rise the poorer and vulnerable members of our community face a real reduction in their incomes.

The Council welcomes The Wellbeing of Future Generations Bill being brought through parliament by the Big Issue's founder Lord John Bird. The draft legislation currently lays out plans for a public consultation to set national wellbeing goals – measures of how the country is faring in terms of environmental, social, economic and cultural wellbeing. Public bodies, including government departments, will then be held accountable on how they hit those goals. If the Bill became legislation, it would require public bodies to consider how decisions made now affect future needs, and tackle persistent problems such as poverty, homelessness, health inequalities and climate change.

The Council resolves to:

1. Write to the relevant Secretaries of State asking them to keep people in their homes and in sustainable jobs by using the following measures:

- (a) HM Government to pay off £360m in rent arrears
- (b) Suspend no-fault evictions until a Renters' Reform Act is passed
- (c) Permanently reinstate the £20 increase to Universal Credit and extend the increase to all appropriate "legacy" benefits
- (d) Improve access to Discretionary Housing Payment
- (e) Unfreeze Local Housing Allowance
- (f) Improve support for financial literacy education
- (g) Invest to create new green jobs.

2. Express its support for the Wellbeing of Future Generations Bill.

Motion 3 Carbon Advertising

Proposer: Cllr Penfold Seconded: Cllr Gallagher

This council notes:

- That it is possible for local authorities to implement advertising policies against specific products if they consider them to be harmful to the amenity of an area. This Council notes that the Greater London Authority (GLA), which controls Transport for London (TFL) property, were able to enact a Healthier Food Advertising Policy in 2018 prohibiting High Fat, Sugar or Salt (HFSS) food advertising on TFL property. Council planning departments will be able to advise on how to restrict the use of 'deemed consent' under the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (England) Regulations 2007 including writing to the relevant Secretary of State.
- That Lewisham Council currently holds an Advertising Concession Agreement with Clear Channel UK involving the upkeep and maintenance of bus stops across the borough, many of which include advertising panels.
- That advertising prohibitions and restrictions already exist regarding all tobacco products and e-cigarettes, guns and offensive weapons, breath testing and products designed to mask the effects of alcohol, 'pyramid schemes', 'obscene material' as well as other rules regarding marketing to children, high fat sugar and salt products, medical and health claims, religion, financial products, and pornography.
- That a double-sided digital bus stop advertising screen uses four times the electricity of the average British home.
- That a climate emergency was declared by this council on 27 February 2019, which included a commitment to do everything within their power to make Lewisham carbon neutral by 2030.

This council believes:

- That the purpose of advertising is to stimulate demand for goods and services.
- That some advertising content undermines the council's objectives regarding public health, air pollution and sustainable consumption. For example, High Fat Sugar and Salt products undermine health objectives, petrol and diesel car adverts, especially for Sports Utility Vehicles, undermine climate and air quality objectives and airline advertising undermines carbon emission reduction targets.

This council resolves:

- To review its Advertising Concession Agreement[s] as soon as possible, to investigate the possibility of amending the current set of prohibitions and restrictions during the term of the agreement to include products that contribute to climate change and air pollution.
- If the above is not possible, to begin work on a new policy, to take effect when the Advertising Concession Agreement is next renewed.

- For officers to produce a briefing with a view to investigating a Low Carbon Advertising Policy as part of the council's planning policies, to apply to bus stops, billboards and advertising spaces in the city within the jurisdiction of the local planning area.
- To investigate the legality and desirability of amending the local plan in the foreseeable future to investigate whether planning applications for all new digital advertising screens in Lewisham can be resisted due to the high electricity use of those technologies or, if that is not logistically possible, to investigate the legality and desirability of including such a presumption in the next local plan.