

# Motions under Standing Order

## 16.11.2

**Deadline for receipt is Thursday, 1 October at 10.30 am.**

### **1. Funding Support for Refugees**

Moved by Councillor D Finch and seconded by Councillor T Cutmore

This Council notes the Prime Minister's announcement that the UK will accept up to 20000 refugees direct from Syrian refugee camps and welcomes the positive approach taken by Essex Councils during the current crisis.

This Council notes that whilst Government funding is to be provided to cover this support it is for the first year only and will not cover the full costs of service provision.

This Council therefore calls upon the Government to fully fund the support to refugees and for the full 5 year period.

### **2. Review of Pothole Criteria**

Moved by Councillor D Kendall and seconded by Councillor S Robinson

This Council notes that a pothole is a hole that is deeper than 50mm and wider than 75mm in any horizontal direction. Many of our residents have serious concerns about this definition and would like to see the depth and width criteria reduced.

This Council therefore calls upon the Place Services and Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee to undertake an urgent review of the County Council's criteria for pothole repairs. The review should be tasked with looking into what impact any changes to the current criteria would have in terms of repair times, costings and improved resident satisfaction compared to what is currently on offer.

### **3. Adult Social Care**

Moved by Councillor K Clempner and seconded by Councillor M Danvers

This Council notes recent news from CQC highlighting the care homes in Essex providing inadequate care and acknowledges that while some private sector homes provide excellent care, others without adequate funding and resources do not.

This Council therefore calls on the Government to provide a separate funding arrangement for social care, as it does with funding for education, which must be based on need and funded in line with anticipated demographic pressures facing Essex.

This Council also calls on the administration to lobby Government to ensure that caring is professionalised with appropriate national standards of training and skill acquisition.

Further the authority should lead the private sector by example and reopen its own local care homes to act as an exemplar and where possible be ready to take back failed homes into local authority control.

#### **4. Parking around Schools**

Moved by Councillor N Le Gresley and seconded by Councillor M Ellis

Parking problems around schools throughout the County are getting worse, increasing the dangers to our children and exacerbating conflicts between some parents and local residents that increasingly results in violence. No single agency, council, police or school is individually responsible for dealing with this situation, although they all have specific duties and are no doubt doing their best with available resources. What is needed is a holistic approach and leadership to co-ordinate all these different organisations so as to find the best combined solution to the problem and the discourse it engenders.

Essex County Council, as the senior partner, accepts this responsibility and resolves to reinstate the 'School Travel Planning Team' (disbanded in 2012), or some other such group within the Economic Growth and Development Department, to take the lead.

This team, in conjunction with County Councillors, who themselves have a key role in this area as community representatives, will be responsible for co-ordinating action and responses from the different agencies, including schools, whose responsibilities do not end at the school gates, to promote and develop 'School Traffic Management Plans', for each school location, that incorporate 'School Travel Plans', prepared and maintained by each school.

Suitable action is long overdue and this approach would be a cost effective initiative that will benefit the entire school system in Essex and serve to bring greater harmony between parents and residents as well as providing a safer environment for Essex children.