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# Motions under Council Procedure Rule 8

## 1. Health Outcomes of Essex Residents

Moved by Councillor G Butland, seconded by Councillor W J C Dick and supported by Councillor A Naylor:

“Essex County Council notes with concern the current situation with regard to Basildon and Thurrock University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Colchester Hospital University NHS Foundation Trust. The County Council however also recognises the good work being done by various directorates to improve partnership and closer co-operation between the County Council, Primary Care Trusts, the NHS Foundation Trusts and other related partners. The County Council pledges to use its community leadership role to improve the health outcomes for all of its residents.”

## 2. Safeguarding Vulnerable Children

Moved by Councillor T C Smith-Hughes, seconded by Councillor J Deakin and supported by Cllr M Mackrory:

“Council notes the increasing emphasis and responsibilities being placed on local authorities and schools for safeguarding vulnerable children.

Notwithstanding some legitimate criticisms by the Local Government Association of the Government Watchdog Ofsted in the even-handedness of Ofsted in its comments on the performance of local authorities in this area, Council notes with regret that Essex County Council, in the Ofsted Annual Performance Assessment Review towards the end of 2008, was 1 of only 8 local authorities whose performance in safeguarding vulnerable children (“Staying Safe” category) was found to be unsatisfactory. As a result, the Council was served with a formal “Notice to Improve” by the Government and in the recent unannounced inspection by Ofsted this October, serious shortcomings were still identified though progress had been made.

Council accepts that significant financial resources have been made available to correct, on both a short and medium term, the major deficiencies identified. However, notwithstanding considerable efforts by staff, Council is concerned that the rate of improvement has been slower than anticipated and requests that all members of the Council are regularly updated with progress being made. This is necessary to indicate that the Council and all its Councillors are giving the issue the highest priority required and demonstrating that Essex is

doing everything that could be expected of it to ensure that vulnerable children are appropriately safeguarded.”

### **3. Bradwell Power Station**

Moved by Cllr David Kendall, seconded by Cllr Mike Mackrory, supported by Cllr Tom Smith-Hughes:

“The Members of Essex County Council are very concerned that the Government is only undertaking a very limited public consultation on Bradwell being a suitable site for a replacement Nuclear Power Station. Members call upon the Government to widen this consultation across Essex so that all our residents have the opportunity to make their voices heard on this very important issue.”