

Motions under Standing Order

16.11.2

1. The Deanes School

Moved by Councillor D Blackwell and seconded by Councillor C Pond.

‘That Council believes, because of widespread public disquiet over the issue of the statutory notice to close the Deanes School Thundersley, and the calls which have been made for unitary status in that area as a result, Cabinet should consider announcing at least a two-year moratorium on the closure, and so as not to disrupt further the well-being of the school, present to Council by July 2014 a plan to stabilise, upgrade, and improve it, with a view to catering for the anticipated increase in the young population of South Essex over the medium term.’

2. Financial Transparency of EU costs to Essex County Council

Moved by Councillor K Smith and seconded by Councillor J Huntman.
Supported by Councillor G Helm.

‘That Council believes the true cost of Britain's membership of the European Union affects all levels of government. The Single European Act right through to the Waste Framework Directive all directly affect the budget of Essex County Council.

- Therefore, this Council calls upon Essex County Council to publish the full cost of the EU to the taxpayers of Essex.
- This Council also calls upon Essex County Council to publish the figures on its website and in the annual Council Tax Demand booklet.’

3. Reduction of Tax Burden

Moved by Councillor D Louis and seconded by Councillor A Wood.

‘That Council notes with considerable concern that at a time of having to make difficult decisions about the future of services Essex County Council is required to pay millions of pounds in so called “Green Taxes”. This Council believes that this money would be better spent on providing services for the people of Essex and therefore calls on the Government and EU to significantly reduce this tax burden as a matter of priority.’

4. Youth Service

Moved by Councillor D Kendall and seconded by Councillor J Deakin.
Supported by Councillor J Whitehouse.

'Following the recent Youth Service Public Consultation, this Council considers the proposed cut in the Essex Youth Service budget, which is expected to save £3 million by 2015 / 2016, should be placed on hold.

This Council, therefore, calls for:

- (1) The existing £5 million Youth Service budget to be ring-fenced for the next two years.
- (2) The current Youth Service staffing levels to be maintained for the next two years.
- (3) The Youth Strategy Groups across Essex to be given more devolved powers to allocate funding and resources as soon as possible.
- (4) A major youth volunteer recruitment programme to be started as soon as possible across the County.
- (5) Any major changes arising from the Youth Service Public consultation to be phased in over the next 2/3 years to ensure there is continuity of service out in the community and that Youth volunteers are adequately trained to meet the ever changing needs of our young people.'

5. The Deanes School

Moved by Councillor J Young and seconded by Councillor M Danvers.
Supported by Councillor M McGeorge.

'This Council acknowledges that until very recently, The Deanes and Glenwood Schools embraced a joint-vision of a community where individual learners, families and the community would share the highest expectations and aspirations for all, raising educational attainment in the area by narrowing the gap between the advantaged and disadvantaged.

This Council expresses deep concern that the Cabinet decision on the closure of The Deanes School has neglected to take into account the pivotal role that the co-location would have played in the area with emerging widespread public discontent raising further questions over the educational outcomes for the south of Essex.

Council calls on the Cabinet to reconsider the decision of whether to close The Deanes School and to consider reaffirming its commitment to co-locate the school as well as undertaking a full review of educational outcomes in the south of the County with a focus on raising attainment in areas which need it most.'