Motions under Standing Order 16.11.2

1. Promoting the interests of Essex Residents

Moved by Councillor David Finch and seconded by Councillor Kevin Bentley

"That this Council acknowledges the result of the recent General Election and pledges that under all circumstances it will continue to promote and protect the interests of the residents of Essex."

2. Devolution

Moved by Councillor Mike Mackrory and seconded by Councillor Stephen Robinson

"The recent devolution of powers from Westminster to the northern city regions is to be welcomed.

This Council believes there is a strong case for the English Counties, together with the second tier authorities, to be granted the same powers.

That this Council, therefore, resolves to call on the new Government to convene meetings with the representatives of Local Government to bring forward proposals for the devolution of powers as a matter of urgency."

3. Home to School Transport

Moved by Councillor Julie Young and seconded by Councillor I Henderson

"Council notes that from September onwards many parents in Essex will face significant travel costs to transport their children to school as a result of changes to the home to school transport policy. Council further notes that in some areas, families will have to find up to £700 a year to pay for their child to travel to school as a result of these changes.

That Council therefore calls on the home to school transport policy to be reviewed, taking account of:

- (a) The cost implications to families.
- (b) Whether children have a safe route to school as a result of the changes.
- (c) Whether parents have been well informed throughout the process.

(d) Whether this policy change will impact negatively on the Council's desire 'to get Essex moving' as more parents will be forced to drive children to school.

Council further calls on the Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning to consider implementing transitional arrangements to reduce the financial impact on families by awarding discretionary payments to support parents for this coming school year."