



**WATFORD
BOROUGH
COUNCIL**

COUNCIL MEETING

24 January 2022

7.30 pm

Watford Colosseum, Watford

Contact

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Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council of the Borough of Watford to be held on Monday, 24 January 2022 starting at 7.30 pm at the Watford Colosseum, Watford to take into consideration and determine upon the following subjects, namely: -

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Disclosure of Interests

3. Minutes

The [minutes](#) of the meeting held on 18 October 2021 to be submitted and signed.

4. Official Announcements

5. Mayor's Report (Pages 6 - 10)

6. Questions by Members of the Council under Council Procedure Rule 10.0

7. Petitions presented under Council Procedure Rule 12.0

8. Business especially brought forward by the Chairman or the Head of Paid Service which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered as a matter of urgency.

9. Proposed change of name for Sustainability Forum (Pages 11 - 19)

Report of the Democratic Services Officer

10. Leave Policy for Members (Pages 20 - 29)

Report of the Mayor's Political Assistant

11. Amendments to Contract Procedure Rules (Pages 30 - 63)

Report of the Corporate Procurement Manager

12. Watford Borough Council's Members' Remuneration Scheme 2022-2026 (Pages 64 - 101)

Report of the Democratic Services Manager

13. Financial Planning (Pages 102 - 201)

Report of the Head of Finance

Further reports to follow after it has been considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 17 January 2022 and minutes are available from Licensing Committee held on 13 January 2022.

14. Motions submitted under Council Procedure Rule 13.0

1. The following motion has been proposed by Mayor Peter Taylor and seconded by Councillor Ian Stotesbury –

Council notes

1. The excessive profits being made by oil and gas companies.
2. Since 2015, the Conservatives have scrapped zero carbon standards for new homes, and failed to insulate millions of older, energy inefficient homes.

Council therefore supports calls for a “Robin Hood” tax – a one-off levy on the super-profits of oil and gas firms to raise money to support millions of families facing soaring energy costs which includes:

1. A proposed one-off levy to raise an estimated £5 billion from companies that are making record profits from soaring energy prices. This would be used to support vulnerable families facing a 50% increase to their energy bills.
2. This “one-off” tax could fund a substantial package of emergency support to help over 17 million people with their heating bills.
3. This package of support would include doubling and extending the Warm Home Discount, doubling the Winter Fuel Allowance
4. A new ten-year home insulation scheme: This would be spent on reducing people’s energy bills in the long-term through an emergency home insulation programme to upgrade poorly insulated UK homes - including through fully funded grants for those in fuel poverty and on

low incomes. This would cost an estimated £500 million in the next year.

Council recognises any such one off tax should be followed by a widespread review to ensure energy companies pay their fair share.

Council calls on the Mayor to write to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, calling for a one off tax on excessive profits made by oil and gas companies in order to help vulnerable people with heating bills and upgrade poorly insulated homes.

2. The following motion has been proposed by Councillor Jennifer Pattinson and seconded by Councillor Favour Ezeifedi –

Council notes:

- Sexual violence, sexual harassment, and domestic abuse remain endemic in modern society, highlighted most recently by the appalling murders of Sabina Nessa, Sarah Everard, and sisters Bibba Henry and Nicole Smallman.
- According to national crime statistics in the UK, on average one woman is killed by a man every three days.
- A 2021 YouGov national survey on behalf of UN Women UK found that among women aged 18-24, 97% said they had been sexually harassed, while 80% of women of all ages said they had experienced sexual harassment in public spaces.
- The ONS reported that last year alone 618,000 women were victims of a sexual assault or an attempted sexual assault by a man
- A recent OFSTED review into sexual harassment in schools has found that sexual harassment, including online sexual abuse, has become 'normalised' for children and young people.
- Local Charity, Dignify, has conducted a study of more than 1,000 pupils, aged 14-18, from across South West Hertfordshire into the use and perceptions of porn by young people. Their research found that 55% of young people surveyed had viewed porn and 58% felt that people who use porn are likely to objectify others.

Council recognises:

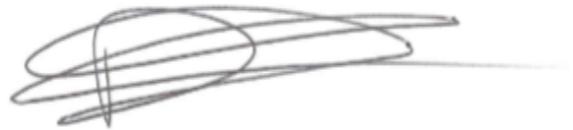
- Dignify is doing fantastic work in Watford and the surrounding areas to help children and young people to have healthy relationships.
- White Ribbon is the leading charity in the UK with a mission to end male violence against women and is part of the global White Ribbon movement which arose from a campaign started by men in Canada in 2004.

Council believes:

- Male violence against women and girls is part of a broader culture of misogyny in society.
- More focus should be placed on changing men's behaviour than on women taking action to make themselves safer.

Council resolves to:

1. Encourage all male councillors to take the White Ribbon pledge, never to take part in, condone or stay silent about violence against women.
2. Work towards White Ribbon accreditation, joining the large number of public sector bodies which have already done so; and
3. As part of this, mark White Ribbon Day on 25 November each year and encourage participation among councillors, council staff and local organisations.
4. Ask the One Watford group to look into how the council can support campaigns for the end of violence against women and the promotion of healthy relationships.
5. Ask Mayor Peter Taylor to write to the Secretary of State for Education and the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport to request further work be done in support of all elements of this motion.
6. Call out all forms of sexual objectification and all its negative outcomes and encourage others to do the same. Championing the wellbeing of everyone, particularly of women and girls, and encouraging the education of everyone, particularly of men and boys.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Donna Nolan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Donna Nolan, Managing Director