

2. The following motion has been proposed by Councillor Turmaine and seconded by Councillor Khan –

Motion to Council: Warm Banks in Watford

This Council also notes that:

Many individuals and families will not be able to warm their homes this winter due to the cost of energy, despite the government's deferred payment energy unit price cap. Increasingly, councils like Watford are creating 'Warm Bank' schemes, to give residents a place to stay warm and keep the cost of bills at home down after school and during evenings and weekends.

This Council believes that:

No one should go cold in Watford. Fuel poverty in the United Kingdom is disgraceful and a shaming indictment of the policies of the Conservative government. People should be able to affordably warm their own homes.

This Council resolves:

That Watford Council will develop an emergency plan for the use of 'Warm Banks' across the borough. This includes the opening of community centres, leisure centres and other suitable buildings to provide support.

To work closely and provide extra funding for charities that are combating poverty such as food banks, children's and pensioners poverty charities.

Work with local businesses across Watford this winter so that they too, can help with dealing with the emerging fuel crisis.

That Watford Council will write to Dean Russell, Watford's MP, to demand the government does more in dealing with fuel poverty in the town by providing funding to councils to cope this winter.

Amendment to motion 2

Remove "also"

Change "councils like Watford are creating 'Warm Bank' schemes" to "Councils including Watford are creating 'Warm Bank' schemes"

After "evenings and weekends...." add:

"...and give an opportunity to meet others.

"Watford Council declared a cost of living emergency at a previous meeting. In response to the emergency, the Mayor has convened a Cost of Living Forum to bring together key organisations, groups and individuals who, together, can have a real impact on those finding it hard to manage through these difficult times. It has also created an online cost of living

hub to help residents find the resources and access the organisations they need to deal with the cost of living emergency.”

Change “will develop an emergency plan” to “will implement its plan”

Change “To work closely and provide extra funding...” to “To work closely and continue to provide extra funding...”]

After “...poverty charities” insert “through the Watford Community Fund and other sources”

Before “Work with local businesses” add “continue to”

New Motion:

Motion to Council: Warm Banks in Watford

This Council notes that:

Many individuals and families will not be able to warm their homes this winter due to the cost of energy, despite the government's deferred payment energy unit price cap. Increasingly, councils including Watford are creating ‘Warm Bank’ schemes, to give residents a place to stay warm and keep the cost of bills at home down after school and during evenings and weekends and give an opportunity to meet others.

Watford Council declared a cost of living emergency at a previous meeting. In response to the emergency, the Mayor has convened a Cost of Living Forum to bring together key organisations, groups and individuals who, together, can have a real impact on those finding it hard to manage through these difficult times. It has also created an online cost of living hub to help residents find the resources and access the organisations they need to deal with the cost of living emergency.

This Council believes that:

No one should go cold in Watford. Fuel poverty in the United Kingdom is disgraceful and a shaming indictment of the policies of the Conservative government. People should be able to affordably warm their own homes

This Council resolves:

That Watford Council will implement its plan for the use of ‘Warm Banks’ across the borough. This includes the opening of community centres, leisure centres and other suitable buildings to provide support.

To work closely and continue to provide extra funding for charities that are combating poverty such as food banks, children’s and pensioner’s poverty charities through the Watford Community Fund and other sources.

Continue to work with local businesses across Watford this winter so that they too, can help with dealing with the emerging fuel crisis.

That Watford Council will write to Dean Russell, Watford's MP, to demand the government does more in dealing with fuel poverty in the town by providing funding to councils to cope this winter.

Moved by Mayor Taylor

Seconded by Councillor Dychton