

COUNCIL

30 SEPTEMBER 2021

AMENDMENT 1 TO MOTION

Proposed by: Councillor Rhys Taylor

Seconded by: Councillor Emma Sandrey

Amend the word order of the first paragraph so it reads as follows:

This Council wishes to pay tribute to the ongoing extraordinary work and dedication of all care workers and unpaid carers delivering Social Care, which serves as such a lifeline to children and adults at risk during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the first bullet point after In response, this Council resolves add

and Living Hours after Real Living Wage

After the first bullet point referred to above add the following bullet point and paragraph:

 that a Universal Basic Income would ensure that every individual and family are able to cover their basic living costs and weather economic insecurity, and requests that the Leader write to the First Minister expressing support for a Care Leavers Plus pilot of a UBI and that Cardiff be considered as part of the pilot;

In the final bullet point, add after the word proposals 'and consider raising revenues through the taxation of wealth rather than income, which penalises those who work for a living'.

The Amended Motion will read as follows:

This Council wishes to pay tribute to the ongoing extraordinary work and dedication of all care workers and unpaid carers delivering Social Care, which serves as such a lifeline to children and adults at risk during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Council notes with concern the severe staffing pressures now emerging within Social Care exacerbating long-standing demographic pressures, and compounded by long-delayed reform of the social care sector.

The Council welcomes the Welsh Government's recent commitment of immediate additional funding of £40M to support Local Authorities' delivery of Social Care, and further welcomes the Welsh Government's commitment to paying the Real Living Wage to all Social Care workers during this Senedd term.

However, this Council notes with alarm the recent announcement from the UK Government on Social Care which –

- Introduces an unfair increase in National Insurance contributions which will disproportionately impact the poorest in society;
- Provides no immediate new funding for the Social Care sector which has been decimated by over a decade of austerity; and
- Proposes no plans to reform Social Care to address the immediate looming crisis, nor the long term structural issues faced.

The Council further notes that the increase in NI contributions – the biggest tax increase for families in 50 years – will come shortly after a cut to Universal Credit that will impact 31,000 households in Cardiff.

In response, this Council resolves -

- that Cardiff should seek to be a pilot area for introducing the Real Living Wage and Living Hours, and requests that Cabinet bring forward a report detailing the practical implications of how this could be implemented in conjunction with the support and funding of Welsh Government;
- that a Universal Basic Income would ensure that every individual and family are able to cover their basic living costs and weather economic insecurity, and requests that the Leader write to the First Minister expressing support for a Care Leavers Plus pilot of a UBI and that Cardiff be considered as part of the pilot;
- that there can be no further delay in reforming and properly funding social care, and therefore requests that the Cabinet Member for Social Care, Health and Wellbeing writes to the Deputy Minister for Social Care, urging the Welsh Government – in the absence of any plan by the UK Government – to bring forward its own plans for reform, giving parity of esteem between social care workers and those in health, and putting in place sustainable long-term funding;
- that the UK Government's iniquitous proposals to increase NI contributions and cut Universal Credit will hit the poorest members of society hardest, and devastate thousands of hard-working families in Cardiff, and request that the Leader writes to the Prime Minister urging his Government to rethink their proposals and consider raising revenues through the taxation of wealth, rather than income, which penalises those who work for a living.