

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Council

DATE: 24th November, 2009

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WARD(S): All

PART I **FOR DECISION**

MOTIONS SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL UNDER PROCEDURE RULE 14

The following motions have been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14:-

1. Motion (A)

(Moved by Councillor Cryer, seconded by Councillor Stokes)

“This Council:-

- Notes with concern that every reputable opinion poll organisation has confirmed that politicians constitute the most mistrusted and disliked occupation in the U.K.
- Regrets that this public suspicion and hostility extends to both MPs at national government level and to Councillors at local government level.
- Recognises the need to restore public confidence in our governmental bodies and democratic institutions.
- Accordingly asks our MPs (whose record on the expenses scandal has been commendable) to use their best endeavours to persuade the Government to take more positive action against those MPs who have been guilty of misdemeanours.
- Accepts that people are entitled to change their political opinions and allegiance in a democracy but should do so on the basis of honesty and conviction rather than political opportunism and financial gain, and
- At local level calls on all Slough Borough Councillors to refrain from behind the scenes machinations whereby Councillors are invited to change political allegiance on the promise of financial reward and appointment to the Mayoralty, Deputy Mayoralty, a Cabinet Commissioner post, or other position of Office.”

2. Motion (B)

(Moved by Councillor Dale-Gough, seconded by Councillor Hewitt)

“The Council:-

1. Is seriously concerned that Slough Borough Council has been placed in 141st position out of 152 local authorities in relation to the Key Stage 2

results of SATS (Standard Attainment Tests), despite the hard work and efforts of head teachers and their staff in primary schools.

2. Calls upon Councillor Pantelic, Commissioner for Education & Children's Services, to tell us of the measures that she had recommended that schools implement to remedy the situation.
3. The same Councillor to report back to full Council in five months' time to report upon the results of implementing these recommended measures."

3. **Motion (C)**

(Moved by Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Maclsaac)

"This Council:-

- Notes that under Labour, child poverty in Slough has continued to deepen. The town's 2009 Health Profile reveals a number of indices that demonstrate the deprivation that continues to blight far too many of our young people's lives. Children in poverty; children's tooth decay; a lower proportion of children leading active lifestyles; and drug abuse – the rates of which all remain worse in slough than the UK average.
- Notes with concern that according to government statistics collected by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation: 24% of children in the borough live in families who are in receipt of key out-of-work benefits; 25% of the Borough's pupils fail to achieve level 4 in key stage 2 Maths & English; 21% of working age households are in receipt of tax credits; while 21% of employees in the Borough are paid less than £7 an hour.
- Condemns the Labour administration, both nationally and locally, for a failure to tackle child poverty effectively.
- Calls on the Council to urgently formulate a strategy for tackling child poverty in the borough and to mitigate against the effects of 12 years of failed Labour governance nationally."