

Council

Thursday, 11 July 2019

Motions – Proposed Amendments

Contact: Shaun Banks (Telephone 07980 752047),
email: sbanks@swindon.gov.uk

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Proposed Amendment

Councillor Jim Grant will move and Councillor will second:

This Council notes:

- The 2015 announcement that free TV Licences for the over 75s will be funded by the BBC
- The recent decision by the BBC that only over 75s who are on pension credit will continue to receive free TV licenses
- The benefits TV Licenses have for many older people in staving off isolation and loneliness - key areas that the Council are looking to reduce within the borough. Less elderly people have access to the internet, online social media or even daily newspapers, and rely on TV to maintain contact with the wider world.
- The Conservative party promised to maintain free TV licences for the duration of this Parliament in their 2017 General Election Manifesto.

This Council:

- Calls on the Government to find ways to continue allowing free TV licences for all over-75s
- Requests the Leader of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Media, Culture and Sport and Swindon's two Members of Parliament setting out the Council's position.

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Proposed Amendment

Councillor Ray Ballman will move and Councillor Brian Ford will second:

This Council notes that:

- The Great Western Hospital Emergency Department continues to fail to meet its 4 hour waiting time target and at the last GWH Trust report to the Health Overview & Scrutiny the GWH were 6% below their 95% NHS target.
- Over 70%, of all money raised from Council Tax payers is spent on supporting the most vulnerable who need Social care.
- This Council eagerly awaits publication of the Government's Green Paper on Social Care for Adults.
- Overcrowding in the Emergency Department remains the GWH Trust's most pressing challenge.
- Demand for the Emergency Department continues to be high year on year as, with a 13.4% increase in Emergency Department attendances compared with March 2018 and this trend continues.
- At the end of last year, NHS statistics showed that Swindon patients faced some of the longest GP appointment waits in the whole country.
- More money is being invested in the NHS than ever before, and reform is urgently needed to address funding the ever increasing demand for Social care.

This Council requests that:

- The Leader of the Council writes to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, reiterating the views of the BMA (at the Annual Representative Meeting 2019) in that long waiting times at A&E are not conducive to safe patient care.
- The Leader of the Council must also request that the Government seeks cross party support for the publication of the Green Paper on Social Care for Adults.
- The Leader of the council forwards a copy this motion, and any correspondence generated as above, to the Chair of the NHS Swindon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) who is responsible for the allocation of resources and funding to NHS Services in the Borough.

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