

Agenda Item 6(b)

Amendments to Motions

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6.	Councillor Darlington – 1 September 2021 Afghan Refugees	None

Notes

Changes to, or withdrawal of amendments must be submitted by 12 noon on Monday 13 September 2021.

Enquiries

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1. Proposed Planning Reforms

Councillor Crooks (15 July 2021)

Councillor Walker moves the following amendment:

- “1. That the word ‘opposition’ be removed and replaced with ‘concern’ in clause 1.
2. That the words “as evidenced in the Chesham & Amersham by-election result” be removed from clause 1.
3. That an additional clause 3 be added:
‘hat this Council does, however, recognise the need for a modern planning system that improves the quality of placemaking and increases the engagement from local residents by supporting the rights of communities to be able to engage easily in the planning process.
and that existing clause 3. be renumbered accordingly.”

The motion, if amended would read:

1. That this Council notes the widespread ~~opposition~~ **concern** to the government's proposed planning reforms ~~as evidenced in the Chesham & Amersham by-election result.~~
2. That this Council re-iterates its commitment in the September 2020 ‘Planning for the Future’ motion, to build more houses approved through a community-led planning system where decisions throughout the process are taken by elected councillors balancing policies in Neighbourhood Plans with a Council-wide Local Plan, and the views of residents.
3. **That this Council does, however, recognise the need for a modern planning system that improves the quality of placemaking and increases the engagement from local residents by supporting the rights of communities to be able to engage easily in the planning process.**
4. That this Council resolves to ask the Chief Executive to send this motion to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities & Local Government, and to the city's two Members of Parliament, to invite their comments.

2. Better Resourcing for MK’s Police

Councillor Trendall (20 June 2021)

Councillor McLean moves the amendment:

- “1. That the words ‘complaints concerning’ be removed and replaced with ‘concerns about’ in clause 1. (c)
2. That the words ‘are on the increase’ be removed and replaced with ‘have increased since the lockdown restrictions have been removed’ in clause 1. (c)

3. That clause 1. (d) be removed and replaced with a new clause 1. (d):
over the past decade police forces have responded the change in trends policing such as online crime which has increased significantly in the past decade;
4. That clause 1. (e) be removed and replaced with a new clause 1. (e):
acknowledges that the number of police officers fell across the country from 2010-2019, but remained stable in Milton Keynes, and praises the government for its drive to hire 20,000 more police officer, with nearly 9,000 officers already having been recruited and 245 of these being in the Thames Valley region;
5. That an additional clause 1. (f) be added:
praises the government for increasing funding to Thames Valley Police by £12.6m for 2021/22;
and that existing clause 1. (f) be renumbered accordingly
6. That the words ‘to ask by when the police service in Milton Keynes will be sufficiently resourced commensurate with a town of its size and population and fit for purpose’ are removed and replaced with ‘to ensure that Milton Keynes is always appropriately resourced to tackle the level of crimes we are facing’ in clause 2.
7. That an additional clause 3. be added:
That this Council resolves to ask Cabinet and officers to play an active part in tackling crime and the perception of crime in MK and to use its assets and partnerships to engage with communities and drive down crime.”

The motion, if amended would read:

1. That this Council notes:
 - (a) that Milton Keynes is the largest town in the eastern region by both size and population;
 - (b) that Milton Keynes has a unique urban environment which includes over 1,200km of roads, 1,400km of footpaths, 350 kms of redways, and over 200,000 homes, whilst still being 40% rural in nature;
 - (c) that ~~complaints concerning~~ **concerns about** drug-related crime, theft from and of vehicles, distraction thefts from homes, street racing on the grid roads, excessive speed on our estate roads, illegal parking on our streets, and violent offences, including knife crime, ~~are on the increase~~ **have increased since the lockdown restrictions have been removed;**
 - (d) ~~that police stations have been closed to the public or had their operating hours curtailed~~ **over the past decade police forces have responded the change in trends policing such as online crime which has increased significantly in the past decade;**

- (e) ~~that policing numbers have failed to recover, as promised, from the disastrous headcount cuts inflicted on all police services by the government~~ acknowledges that the number of police officers fell across the country from 2010-2019, but remained stable in Milton Keynes, and praises the government for its drive to hire 20,000 more police officer, with nearly 9,000 officers already having been recruited and 245 of these being in the Thames Valley region;
 - (f) praises the government for increasing funding to Thames Valley Police by £12.6m for 2021/22; and
 - (g) that the fear of crime in the borough is rising, and as it does quality of life declines.
2. That this Council resolves to request the Leader and Chief Executive to write to the Police & Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley ~~to ask by when the police service in Milton Keynes will be sufficiently resourced commensurate with a town of its size and population and fit for purpose~~ to ensure that Milton Keynes is always appropriately resourced to tackle the level of crimes we are facing.
 3. That this Council resolves to ask Cabinet and officers to play an active part in tackling crime and the perception of crime in MK and to use its assets and partnerships to engage with communities and drive down crime.

4. Tackling Violent Crime

Councillor Walker (26 July 2021)

Councillor Trendall moves the amendment:

- “1. That existing clause 2. (a) be deleted and replaced with a new clause 2. (a):
‘welcomes that reported violent crime has fallen in the period July 2020 to June 2021, but notes this period includes extended periods of lockdown, during which crime fell nationally, largely because of the reduced number of opportunities for violent incidents to occur or for people to associate in groups’
2. That the words ‘excluding fraud’ be removed from clause 2. (b) and additional wording ‘but notes also that this excludes fraud and accurately recorded incidents of domestic abuse which have both increased’ be added at the end of clause 2. (b).
3. That the word ‘praises’ be removed and replaced with ‘is pleased’, that the words ‘for introducing’ be removed and replaced with ‘has brought forward’ and that the words ‘and wants to see this plan become reality’ be added at the end of clause 2. (c).

4. That the words ‘most recently through their £1.8m additional funding for the Thames Valley Police Violence Reduction Unit for 2021/22’ be removed and replaced with ‘requires more funding to be effective, and the recent additional funding of £1.8m for 2021/22 for the Thames Valley Police Violence Reduction Unit must be increased to be effective’ in clause 2. (d).
5. That the words ‘renews its focus and’ be removed and the words ‘aligned with the police responsibility’ be added after ‘strategy’ to clause 3. (a).
6. That the words ‘to use all available assets’ and ‘Thames Valley Police and other local stakeholders in tackling violent crime’ be removed from clause 3. (b) and that the words ‘in their efforts to adequately resource policing in Milton Keynes’ be added at the end of the same clause.
7. That the words ‘how best to use current resources to assist the PCC in fulfilling their duty to tackle’ be added after the words ‘the Cabinet looks at’, that the words ‘all potential options to reduce incidents of’ be deleted and that the word ‘and’ be added after the words ‘violent crime,’ in clause 3. (c).”

The motion, if amended would read:

1. That this Council notes:
 - (a) Milton Keynes has in recent months witnessed a number of disturbing incidents of violent crime in our communities;
 - (b) violent crime causes mental health repercussions, potentially lifechanging or life-altering injuries and in some cases, death;
 - (c) the impact that violent crime has on the families of the victims and the perpetrators of the crime.; and
 - (d) violent crime can cause communities to be fearful and anxious of safety in their areas and the affect this can have on mental wellbeing.
2. That this Council:
 - (a) ~~understands that despite there being a perception of violent crime incidents increasing, there should be an acknowledgement that violent crime has fallen with knife crime down 11%, robbery down 34.5% and violence with injury down 5.1% from July 2020 to June 2021;~~
welcomes that reported violent crime has fallen in the period July 2020 to June 2021, but notes this period includes extended periods of lockdown, during which crime fell nationally, largely because of the reduced number of opportunities for violent incidents to occur or for people to associate in groups;
 - (b) notes that in overall terms crime in Milton Keynes has reduced by 9% ~~excluding fraud,~~ in the same period **but notes also that this excludes fraud and accurately recorded incidents of domestic abuse which have both increased;**

- (c) ~~praises~~ **is pleased** the Government ~~for introducing~~ **has brought forward** “The Beating Crime Plan” focused on tackling serious violence and neighbourhood crimes, **and wants to see this plan become reality**; and
 - (d) acknowledges the Government’s efforts to tackle violent crime and the root causes of violent crime **requires more funding to be effective, and the recent additional funding of £1.8m for 2021/22 for the Thames Valley Police Violence Reduction Unit must be increased to be effective.** ~~most recently through their £1.8m additional funding for the Thames Valley Police Violence Reduction Unit for 2021/22.~~
3. That this Council resolves to:
- (a) request that the SaferMK board ~~renews its focus and~~ develops a strategy **aligned with the police responsibility** to combat violent crime and the root causes of violent crime;
 - (b) encourages the Cabinet ~~to use all available assets to support the PCC in their efforts to adequately resource policing in Milton Keynes Thames Valley Police and other local stakeholders in tackling violent crime;~~ and
 - (c) request that as part of the 2022/23 budget, the Cabinet looks at **how best to use current resources to assist the PCC in fulfilling their duty to tackle** ~~all potential options to reduce incidents of~~ violent crime, **and** the impact it has on victims and the communities in which it occurs, across the Borough of Milton Keynes.