

NOTICE OF MOTION**JOINT LABOUR & CO-OPERATIVE AND GREEN GROUPS'
AMENDMENT****PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY AND STAFF-LED MUTUALS**

Delete paragraphs 3 and 4 as struck through and insert new paragraphs 3 and 4 as shown below in bold italics.

“This Council welcomes the Government’s support for, and promotion of, staff-led mutuals and other forms of co-operative service delivery across the public sector and notes that employees are one of the key groups eligible to submit expressions of interest under the ‘Community Right to Challenge’ in the Localism Act.

This Council notes that the Government’s Mutual’s Taskforce has found that the benefits of mutual and co-operative service delivery are wide ranging and include: (i) greater customer satisfaction; (ii) greater ability of staff to innovate and use their initiative; (iii) lower production costs and higher productivity; (iv) increased resilience; (v) job creation; and (vi) higher morale and motivation amongst staff. This Council, therefore, agrees with the cross-party Communities and Local Government Select Committee’s recent conclusion that more local authorities should be considering setting up mutuals and co-operatives¹.

~~Furthermore, this Council notes that there are a growing number of successful staff-led mutuals emerging in local government such as Project Salus in Kent, Aspire Sussex in West Sussex and Sunshine Care Community Interest Company in Rochdale.~~

~~Therefore, this Council resolves to request that the Chief Executive work with the Local Government Association and other relevant external organisations with a view to bringing a report to the Policy & Resources Committee in July, detailing options for piloting staff-led mutuals in particular service areas in consultation and agreement with staff.~~

The council also notes the significant concern amongst organisations working in the mutual, co-operative and social enterprise sectors that the word ‘mutual’ is being used in ways which do not meet the established definitions of the term – in particular with regard to the absolute requirement that mutuals must be majority owned by staff.

¹ <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmselect/cmcomloc/112/112.pdf>

Therefore this council requests that the council's Policy Team undertakes an evaluation of staff-led mutuals currently in operation, working with expert organisations in the sector such as Co-ops UK, Mutuo and the Employee Ownership Association, and seeking the views of staff representatives and trade unions as part of this work. Issues the report should examine include:

- ***The importance of mutual spin-offs being driven by the staff themselves rather than imposed***
- ***Success factors in the establishment of staff led mutual organisations.***
- ***How to ensure that the staff led mutuals continue to provide services in the long term, and avoid mutualisation becoming a step towards privatization***
- ***How to secure assets within the mutual organisations to ensure that they continue to contribute to the public benefit.***
- ***Establishing criteria for tendering and commissioning of existing externally provided services that favour mutual and co-operative organisations”***

Proposed by: Cllr Mitchell

Seconded by: Cllr Rufus

Supported by: Cllrs Morgan, Hamilton, Lepper, Fitch, Farrow, Robins, Pissaridou, Gilbey, Carden, Marsh and Wilson, J. Kitcat, Bowden, Davey, Deane, Duncan, Hawtree, Jarrett, Jones, Kennedy, A Kitcat, Buckley, Littman, Mac Cafferty, Phillips, Powell, Sykes, Shanks, Wakefield and West.