

Merton Council Council

16 November 2022

Supplementary Agenda 3

22 Amendments

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LD Amendment to Conservative Motion (Item 13)

Labour Amendment to Conservative Motion (Item 13)

LD Amendment to Council Tax Support Scheme (Item 14)

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Liberal Democrat group Amendment to the Conservative group Motion – Waste and Street Cleaning Contract Merton Assembly, in the names of Cllr Anthony Fairclough and Cllr John Braithwaite

Proposed by Cllr Anthony Fairclough

Seconded by Cllr John Braithwaite

Replace the words from “The future contract must deliver” to “all parts of the borough” in the second paragraph with the words “The future contract(s) must deliver the basic services to a good standard, reflect local priorities, and learn from best practice across the country. Contract management and performance, the climate emergency and environmental response, and fair pay for workers must be a priority in the new arrangements.” And replace the words from “A Merton Assembly” to “the new proposals” in the final paragraph with the words “one or more properly established Citizens’ Assemblies to examine and feedback on the proposals put forward for future services.”

So that the motion now read:

Motion to Council 16 November 2022 – Conservative Motion Waste and Street Cleaning Contract

This Council recognises that the decision by the Labour administration to enter into the current waste and street cleaning contract with Veolia has had many negative ramifications for Merton residents. Due to continued failures by Veolia, residents lost confidence in the waste collection and street cleaning service as streets were not kept clean, missed collections occurred, fly tipping was not cleared and graffiti was not cleaned. This council believes that residents must have confidence in any new arrangement that the Labour administration enters. **The future contract(s) must deliver the basic services to a good standard, reflect local priorities, and learn from best practice across the country. Contract management and performance, the climate emergency and environmental response, and fair pay for workers must be a priority in the new arrangements.**

Therefore, Council calls upon the Cabinet to convene **one or more properly established Citizens’ Assemblies to examine and feedback on the proposals put forward for future services.**

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Motion to Council 16 November 2022 – Conservative Motion
Waste and Street Cleaning Contract Merton Assembly

This ~~C~~ouncil recognises that ~~despite fortnightly wheeled bin collections driving Merton's recycling rate to 7th highest in London and improvements delivered through the Labour administration issuing Veolia with a service improvement notice, the current contract has not performed to the standard we want. the decision by the Labour administration to enter into the current waste and street cleaning contract with Veolia has had many negative ramifications for Merton residents. Due to continued failures by Veolia, residents lost confidence in the waste collection and street cleaning service as streets were not kept clean, missed collections occurred, fly tipping was not cleared and graffiti was not cleaned.~~

This ~~C~~ouncil believes that residents must have confidence in any new arrangement that the ~~Labour administration~~Council enters into. The future contract must deliver:

- ~~A specification that gives clear performance standards that officers, Councillors and our community can hold to account. Stronger contract management with officers having the confidence to use step in clauses.~~
- A waste collection service that responds to the concerns of residents.
- ~~Clean streets across the borough~~A service that Keeps Merton clean.
- ~~On time collections for~~ Ensure that all property types ~~have on time collections.~~
- ~~Immediate r~~Removal of fly tipping within an agreed timeframe.
- ~~Continued increases in~~ Make recycling rates for all parts of the borough easier and more accessible to the public.
- The flexibility to deliver a great service for all parts of the borough.
- Digital innovation to make the service more responsive and transparent.

~~Council notes plans to take proposals for the future waste and street cleaning service to a special pre-decision Scrutiny meeting, where Councillors and members of the public can scrutinise any future plans, and that this special meeting will be live streamed on Merton Council's You Tube channel.~~

Therefore, ~~C~~ouncil calls upon the ~~C~~abinet to take account of the outcome of the current resident engagement and consultation in shaping the future waste and street cleaning service.

~~-convene a Merton Assembly once the terms of the new waste and street cleaning contract are known.~~

~~The Merton Assembly will:~~

- ~~–Be open to all residents and interested parties to attend.~~
- ~~–Be held in public and broadcast live on the Merton Council YouTube channel.~~
- ~~–Allow the Labour administration to present their plans to the public.~~
- ~~–Allow residents and other interested parties the opportunity to question council officers and cabinet members about the details of any new arrangement.~~
- ~~–Hold a vote on whether the assembly supports the new proposals.~~

Motion now reads:

This Council recognises that despite fortnightly wheeled bin collections driving Merton's recycling rate to 7th highest in London and improvements delivered through the Labour administration issuing Veolia with a service improvement notice, the current contract has not performed to the standard we want.

This Council believes that residents must have confidence in any new arrangement that the Council enters into. The future contract must deliver:

- A specification that gives clear performance standards that officers, Councillors and our community can hold to account.
- A waste collection service that responds to the concerns of residents.
- A service that Keeps Merton clean.
- On time collections for all property types.
- Removal of fly tipping within an agreed timeframe.
- Continued increases in recycling rates for all parts of the borough
- The flexibility to deliver a great service for all parts of the borough.
- Digital innovation to make the service more responsive and transparent.

Council notes plans to take proposals for the future waste and street cleaning service to a special pre-decision Scrutiny meeting, where Councillors and members of the public can scrutinise any future plans, and that this special meeting will be live streamed on Merton Council's You Tube channel.

Therefore, Council calls upon the Cabinet to take account of the outcome of the current resident engagement and consultation in shaping the future waste and street cleaning service.

Liberal Democrat group amendment to Agenda item 14 - Council Tax Support Scheme 2023/24

Proposer: Cllr John Oliver

Seconder: Cllr Robert Page

To add the following recommendation 3:

“That Council ask Cabinet to consider a modernised scheme that extends support to those residents who are struggling through the cost-of-living emergency, but fall just outside eligibility criteria and therefore do not currently qualify for council tax support, with any changes to be implemented as soon as is practicable”

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