

WELWYN HATFIELD COUNCIL
COUNCIL – 23 NOVEMBER 2020

NOTICE OF MOTIONS UNDER PROCEDURE RULE 16

To consider the following notice of motions submitted under Procedure Rule 16:-

1. The following motion has been submitted by Councillor Max Holloway and will be seconded by Councillor Kieran Thorpe:-

“This Council notes that confirmed cases of coronavirus are increasing across the Country.

This Council notes there is uncertainty among residents about what may happen next year when it comes to the elections.

This Council notes the importance of holding safe elections next year and the importance of everyone with the democratic right to vote being able to do so.

This Council notes that the Electoral Commission has published no evidence establishing any concerns in fraud related to postal voting.

To safeguard democracy in Welwyn Hatfield, this Council resolves:

- To write, by the end of February 2021, to every eligible elector in the constituency not already registered as a postal voter, encouraging them to return a completed postal vote application.
- To include a postal vote form and addressed return envelope for each eligible elector with this letter.”

2. The following motion has been submitted by Councillor Glyn Hayes and will be seconded by Councillor Kieran Thorpe:-

“This Council notes the difficulties experienced by commonwealth veterans in securing their leave to remain in the UK following their service in our armed forces.

This Council further notes that following their service, commonwealth veterans can be left with steep financial costs to remain in the UK.

Whilst their applications are ongoing, commonwealth veterans are unable to seek employment or claim social security, with many facing NHS bills of tens of thousands of pounds for life saving treatment following service that placed their own lives at risk for the benefit of us all..

This Council resolves that the leader of the Council will write to:

- The Prime Minister
- The Minister of State for Immigration
- The Minister of State for Veterans

Outlining this councils support for all commonwealth veterans who have served a minimum of 4 years to be granted automatic and free of charge right to remain in the UK.

And that any veteran who completes 12 years of service to be automatically given British Citizenship without charge.

Finally, this Council resolves to write to Grant Shapps MP on behalf of all members of this Council, to ask that he supports a change in the legislation that affects those that have served diligently and honourably for this Country but face these financial barriers in remaining in the Country that they have served.