

Item 8 - Notices of Motion

To consider the following motions, which have been submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 12.1:

a) **Independent Regulatory Body for Football.** Councillor T Williams to propose.

English football, particularly at the highest level, enjoys unparalleled popularity with record attendances creating economic stability to both the club being supported and the local businesses and general community.

Clubs such as Leyton Orient, Leeds and the town's own club at Blackpool have received high levels of media publicity for the wrong reasons. Disputes between fans and owners, for whatever causes, fail to be rectified or addressed by the Football Association who have delegated too much of its powers and can no longer perform a proper governing role. Ill-discipline on the pitch is stringently marshalled by the FA, yet bad governance off it has been delegated to the clubs themselves to referee.

Under the banner 'Fans Not Numbers' business entrepreneur Jamie Fuller the chairman of sports clothing manufacturer 'Skins' together with 'Supporters Direct' the national supporters association with over 400,000 members, are currently lobbying local politicians and national government to set up a multi-party supported Government appointed Independent Regulatory Body. A body that can not only set, but crucially, can enforce off-pitch regulations that include the powers to sanction clubs who are non-compliant. An Independent Regulatory Body could ensure that no clubs are promoted despite breaching rules, reliant on funding from unnamed entities or rendered homeless.

The funding for the Independent Body could be met with a small percentage levy on commercial rights income generated by the leagues.

As Blackpool has obvious and evident issues between its football club and a huge majority of local and out of town fans. This Council has a duty and an economical interest to promote change to the regulatory system to ensure that energy is spent on building not destroying supporter and community relations.

The United Kingdom is only one of five countries in the world that do not have an Independent Regulatory Body.

Council therefore requests the Chief Executive to write to the Prime Minister Mrs. Theresa May and the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Karen Bradley MP confirming the Council's support of the concept to appoint a Government Independent Regulatory Body for football in the UK.

That the formation of the body should be supported by all political parties to address conflicts between owners and fans and to formulate a blueprint for how football governance should work and the changes to bring it about to prevent future conflicts that

result in negative community and damaging economic downturn to the towns and cities affected.

b) **NJC Pay Claim 2018.** Councillor Campbell to propose.

Blackpool Council notes that:

- NJC basic pay has fallen by 21% since 2010 in real terms
- NJC workers had a three-year pay freeze from 2010/ 2012
- Local terms and conditions of many NJC employees have also been cut, impacting on their overall earnings
- NJC pay is the lowest in the public sector
- Job evaluated pay structures are being squeezed and distorted by bottom-loaded NJC pay settlements needed to reflect the increased National Living Wage and the Foundation Living Wage
- There are growing equal and fair pay risks resulting from this situation

Blackpool Council therefore supports the NJC pay claim for 2018, submitted by UNISON, GMB and Unite on behalf of Council and school workers and calls for the immediate end of public sector pay restraint. NJC pay cannot be allowed to fall further behind other parts of the public sector. Blackpool Council also welcomes the joint review of the NJC pay spine to remedy the turbulence caused by bottom-loaded pay settlements.

This Council also notes the drastic ongoing cuts to Local Government funding and calls on the Government to provide additional funding to fund a decent pay rise for NJC employees and the pay spine review.

This Council therefore resolves to:

- Call immediately on the Local Government Association to make urgent representations to Government to fund the NJC claim and the pay spine review and notify us of their action in this regard
- Requests the Chief Executive, to write on behalf of the Council to the Prime Minister and Chancellor supporting the NJC pay claim and seeking additional funding to fund a decent pay rise and the pay spine review
- Requests the Chief Executive to arrange a meeting with local NJC union representatives to convey support for the pay claim and the pay spine review.

c) **Minister for Older People.** Councillor Mrs Wright to propose.

The Council calls upon the Prime Minister to consider the need for a role of 'Minister for Older People' in Government. There is currently a Minister for Disabled People who works successfully across Government to ensure disabled people are not disadvantaged in a way and is a model that could be replicated to ensure that older people are treated similarly and

fairly, including those in the Blackpool area. The Equalities Minister also has cross-government responsibilities for strategy and legislation.

The gap between the remit of the Health and Pensions Ministers needs to be addressed to deal with the unprecedented demographic change that underpins the transformation of the economy, training, work and social care.

The Council therefore requests the Chief Executive to write to the Prime Minister, outlining the Council's view that such a role is required.