

<b>REPORT TO:</b>		Council	
<b>DATE:</b>		16 January 2025	
<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>		Julian Joinson, Head of Member Services	
<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>		Motions for Debate at Council - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Winter Fuel Allowance Support</li> <li>2. Peer Review Improvements</li> <li>3. Reverse Anti-business Tax Rises</li> </ol>	
<b>EXEMPT REPORT:</b>	<b>No</b>		
<b>KEY DECISION:</b>	<b>No</b>	If yes, date of publication:	N/A

The Council will be asked to consider the following motions submitted under Council Procedure Rule A9:-

### 1. **Winter Fuel Allowance Support**

The impact of withdrawing the Winter Fuel Allowance for pensioners across the country will be felt hard particularly in Hyndburn.

The starts of the year are often the coldest, putting our older, vulnerable residents at risk.

Some local authorities are using the Household Support Fund to cover the shortfall for their most vulnerable residents.

This motion makes a request to the Cabinet to authorise widening the eligibility of the Household Support Fund to provide for extra support this winter. As well, to write to Sarah Smith MP and the Chancellor urging them to reverse the cut.

**Proposer: Cllr Marlene Haworth**

**Seconder: Cllr Danny Cassidy**

**Signatories: Cllr Josh Allen, Cllr Loraine Cox, Cllr Zak Khan and Cllr Kathleen Pratt**

*Submitted on Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2024 (18:37)*

### 2. **Peer Review Improvements**

In response to the feedback put forward by the Peer Review Team, we propose a cross-party working group to implement their recommendations to allow for transparency and accountability.

**Proposer: Cllr Josh Allen**

**Seconder: Cllr Judith Addison**

**Signatories: Cllr Danny Cassidy, Cllr Loraine Cox, Cllr Marlene Haworth, Cllr Zak Khan and Cllr Kathleen Pratt**

*Submitted on Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2024 (18:37)*

### **3. Reverse Anti-business Tax Rises**

Business confidence in the UK has experienced a sharp decline after Labour's anti-growth, anti-business Autumn budget. Rising costs and reduced confidence, a drop in GDP and productivity, has been the result.

Many companies will pass these costs onto customers or in lesser pay rises. They will avoid taking on new employees, at a time we need to get more people back to work.

Our businesses are not a result of economic growth; they drive our economic growth. In Hyndburn, small businesses will struggle to absorb these costs, risking their existence.

We believe in creating an environment in which our businesses can thrive, making our country more prosperous and allowing them to invest in our communities.

As such, we propose for the Leader of the Council to write to our MP, Sarah Smith, and the Chancellor, Rachel Reeves MP, asking them to reverse these far-reaching and damaging tax rises in employers national insurance.

Locally, we urge the Council to do more to mitigate the impacts from the budget. The Economic Investment Strategy, voted on by this Council, should be fast-tracked to give businesses the confidence to invest in our Borough.

**Proposer: Cllr Zak Khan**

**Secunder: Cllr Mohammed Younis**

**Signatories: Cllr Josh Allen, Cllr Danny Cassidy, Cllr Loraine Cox, Cllr Marlene Haworth and Cllr Kathleen Pratt**

*Submitted on Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2024 (18:37)*