

REPORT TO:		Council	
DATE:		25 September 2025	
REPORT AUTHOR:		Julian Joinson, Head of Member Services	
TITLE OF REPORT:		Motions for Debate at Council - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Live Streaming of Meetings 2. Urgent Review of the Article 4 Direction Across Hyndburn. 3. Support for Local Businesses amid Financial Pressures 4. Fair Funding Review 	
EXEMPT REPORT:	No		
KEY DECISION:	No	If yes, date of publication:	N/A

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

1. **Live Streaming of Meetings**

This Council requests that the Cabinet consider making arrangements for all council meetings to be live streamed online for public viewing, this includes full council, cabinet and scrutiny meetings.

Proposer: Cllr David Heap

Seconder: Cllr Zak Khan

Signatories: Cllr Steven Smithson

Submitted on Saturday 19 July 2025 (14:44)

2. **Urgent Review of the Article 4 Direction Across Hyndburn**

This Council calls on the Cabinet to urgently review its decision regarding the implementation of the Article 4 Direction for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) across Hyndburn, and to provide a clear, transparent explanation as to why seven wards have been excluded from this policy.

Proposer: Cllr Steven Smithson

Seconder: Cllr David Heap

Signatories: Cllr Loraine Cox and Cllr Zak Khan

Submitted on Friday 15 August 2025 (07:19)

3. Support for Local Businesses amid Financial Pressures

This Council recognises the significant financial challenges currently facing local businesses across Hyndburn. The recent increase in taxes, predominately National Insurance (NI) contributions, has placed additional strain on employers, while high business rates - particularly within the hospitality and retail sector - are contributing to a worrying rise in business closures.

Our local businesses are vital economic drivers. They create employment opportunities, support local supply chains, and help build a thriving community where families can live, work, and prosper. It is a priority for this Council to ensure these businesses are supported during this difficult period.

This Council:

1. Requests that the Cabinet develops an urgent report outlining practical and targeted measures to support local businesses, tailored to individual sectors. This may include steps to promote and increase uptake of existing business rate relief schemes.
2. Requests that the Cabinet reviews the importance of establishing an Economic and Regeneration Fund – as proposed during the February 2025 budget-setting process – and the Cabinet revisit the viability and implementation of such a fund to support long-term business recovery and growth.
3. Requests the Leader of the Council & Leader of the Opposition write a joint cross-party letter to Sarah Smith MP; urging her to recognise that the country cannot tax its way to grow and to stand up for Hyndburn businesses by vocally opposing any new tax rises.

Through these actions, the Council aims to provide meaningful support to the businesses that form the backbone of Hyndburn's economy and long-term transformation, before it is too late for more of our local hard-working business owners.

Proposer: Cllr Zak Khan

Seconder: Cllr Steven Smithson

Signatories: Cllr David Heap

Submitted on Monday 25 August 2025 (16:48)

4. Fair Funding Review

The Cabinet Report of 10 September 2025 detailing an update on the Fair Funding Review notes:

"Hyndburn could experience a substantial reduction in funding under the revised methodology. Hyndburn has been identified as one of the 49 most adversely affected authorities, with projected funding levels falling well below the baseline set out in the government's consultation."

This Council:

Requests the Leader of the Council, along with Leaders of the Opposition parties, write a joint cross-party letter on behalf and signed by all Councillors, to Sarah Smith MP, the Chancellor and the Secretary of State for MHCLG. To urge them to conduct an urgent review and reverse Hyndburn's inclusion on the list of adversely affected authorities. In order to provide certainty to the residents in Hyndburn that they will not be disproportionately affected at a time of significant need across the Borough.

Proposer: Cllr Zak Khan

Seconder: Cllr Joyce Plummer

Signatures: Cllr Danny Cassidy

Submitted on Tuesday, 16 September 2025 (10:59)