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## **SPECIAL MOTION NO. 2 – PROTECTING OUR CARE HOMES**

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Standing in the names of:

- (i) Councillor Ben Coleman
- (ii) Councillor Patricia Quigley

This Council:

Recognises the huge challenges facing the residents and staff in care homes in Hammersmith & Fulham (which are all privately run) during the Covid-19 pandemic;

Deeply regrets every single one of the deaths of local care home residents and care workers: our hearts go out to the families and loved ones of those who have lost their lives;

Notes that the Council became aware in late March that hospitals were discharging people back into care homes without testing them for coronavirus COVID-19;

Notes that the administration took swift action to save lives by closing the homes in early April to new and returning residents;

Recognises the effectiveness of the work to control infection and conduct test in our care homes then carried out by an integrated team comprising the council, Imperial College NHS Trust and the UK Dementia Research Institute based at Imperial College London: this included public health professionals, social workers, GPs, experts in virology and elderly medicine, frailty matrons, infectious diseases teams, academics and paediatric infectious diseases and epidemiology teams;

Notes that every care homes resident has now been tested twice and every member of staff has been tested, in all cases whether symptomatic or not, and that this has controlled the virus and prevented further deaths;

Notes that what this borough has done has not happened everywhere and that many residents in care homes around the country still feel vulnerable;

Deplores the claim made on 19 May by Health Secretary Matt Hancock to Parliament that the government had cast a “protective ring” around “all of our care homes”, as this bears no relationship to the reality which our borough and others around the country have experienced.