
SPECIAL MOTION NO. 1 – FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION

Standing in the names of:

- (i) Councillor Helen Binmore
- (ii) Councillor Mark Loveday

“This Council:

1. Notes that:
 - In the UK it is thought that 66,000 women have been affected by FGM and are living with the consequences, whilst over 20,000 girls under the age of 15 are currently at risk.
 - FGM is a deeply rooted tradition among specific communities and practised for a variety of complex reasons but often in the belief that it is beneficial for the girl or woman.
2. Recognises that:
 - FGM is illegal and has been a criminal offence since 1985.
 - It has no health benefits and it is harmful to girls and women physically, psychologically and emotionally.
 - Consequences can be severe, both immediately and long term.
 - FGM is a form of child abuse and violence against women and girls.
 - An effective co-ordinated multi-agency response is required with appropriate stakeholder involvement.
3. Resolves to:
 - Continue to develop a coherent strategy to raise public awareness and professional understanding, and;
 - End all forms of FGM in the borough.”