
SPECIAL MOTION NO. 4 – LOCAL HOUSING ALLOWANCE

Standing in the names of:

- (i) Councillor Peter Graham
- (ii) Councillor Andrew Johnson

“This Council:

- (1) Endorses the statement that “Housing Benefit will be reformed to ensure that we do not subsidise people to live in the private sector on rents that other ordinary working families could not afford”: (*A Future Fair For All: The Labour Party Manifesto 2010*).
- (2) Notes:
 - that new rules will be implemented from April 2011 for those who receive Housing Benefit in the form of Local Housing Allowance;
 - that social housing tenants, and anyone who started receiving payments for a property prior to April 2008, will not be affected by the new Local Housing Allowance rules, and;
 - the wider changes to the benefits system from 2013 onwards;
- (3) Resolves:
 - to assist households whose rent becomes unaffordable to negotiate lower rents with their landlords and;
 - when renegotiation of rents is not feasible, to make discretionary payments to those with special circumstances and;
 - to assist other households in finding affordable properties as near as possible to the tenants’ preferred location.”