

Motion A**Proposed by: Councillor Clucas****Seconded by: Councillor Harvey**

That this Council, mindful of the distress, concern and inconvenience to Cheltenham residents, that would ensue should Cheltenham A&E close, reiterates its opposition to any proposed closure or downgrading of A&E facilities at our local hospital. Council recognises the high esteem in which residents hold the Accident and Emergency Department and the staff who work there.

It further calls on the Chair of the Trust to confirm that any proposals in relation to the future of Cheltenham's A&E will be discussed with the Council and shared with the people of Cheltenham to ensure that their voice is heard.

In addition, Council thanks the Accountable Officer at the CCG for her prompt response in ensuring that questions raised by councillors in relation to recent reports, were answered.

It further calls on the Member of Parliament to support the retention of a full range of A&E services at Cheltenham Hospital.

Motion B**Proposed by: Councillor Savage****Seconded by: Councillor Harman**

This Council notes with concern the widely reported harassment, abuse and intimidation during the recent General Election campaign, including incidents of vandalism and arson here in Cheltenham.

It condemns all and any harassment, abuse or intimidation of election candidates, volunteers and those involved in the democratic process.

This council will work proactively to ensure that members of the public who wish to stand for public office are given the full support of this council and its partner organisations in exercising this fundamental right.

This council will ensure that all duly nominated electoral candidates are made aware of appropriate channels to ensure that any future incidents of harassment, abuse and intimidation can be reported and investigated.

Motion C**Proposed by: Councillor Wilkinson****Seconded by: Councillor Hobley**

This Council notes that:

Delivering the right mix of housing is a key part of Cheltenham's economic prosperity;

Ensuring young people are able to live and work in the town is vital for the future prosperity of the town, in line with the aspirations of the council's place strategy;

House prices to buy and to rent in Cheltenham are unaffordable for many younger people;

Short term tenancy agreements, at a standard of one year, reduce stability for the

majority of young people who our town must retain for its future prosperity;

This discourages many younger people from moving here and remaining here in the longer term;

This promotes inbound commuting, leading to congestion and other associated problems such as poor air quality and economic inefficiency;

This is making it more difficult for businesses to recruit the right employees; and

The issue is identified by key stakeholders, including those at the recent Civic Society conference, as a key factor for the future prosperity of the town.

Council resolves to:

Explore all possible methods for delivering more affordable housing for younger people to buy, including influencing house sizes and types in new developments;

Take opportunities to work with developers to deliver shared ownership schemes;

Take opportunities to work with private sector companies that would provide longer term rental security;

Work with third sector partners on shared ownership schemes;

Explore and develop local planning policy and guidance reflecting these concerns for inclusion in the Cheltenham local plan; and

To recognise the issues of long term security in the private rental sector and affordability for first time buyers as key challenges to meet in the Cheltenham Local Plan.

