

Wiltshire Council

Full Council

18 October 2022

Notice of Motion No. 2022-02 - Cost of Living

From Councillors Richard Clewer and Laura Mayes

To consider the following motion submitted in accordance with the constitution:

Wiltshire Council is determined to ensure the protection of the residents of Wiltshire from the cost of living challenge driven by Covid and Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine. Their combined effects have led to rising energy prices and residents facing significant cost of living pressures.

This council is thankful for the significant work that the Government has done to support the residents of Wiltshire. It notes the benefit that the two-year energy price guarantee and the certainty it will give to residents across Wiltshire as well as the enormous help that the £400 energy bill discount will provide to every household. It further notes the additional support of the £650 cost of living payment for those in receipt of means-tested benefits, £300 for pensioner households and £150 for recipients of disability benefits in Wiltshire.

Wiltshire Council thanks the Government for providing equivalent support for those not on the mains energy grid and the protection of jobs in Wiltshire that the six-month protection for businesses will provide. Wiltshire Council further thanks the Government on its long-term plans that will maximise domestic energy produce through North Sea oil and gas, as well as nuclear and renewables that will contribute towards securing energy independence in the long term and ensure that Wiltshire will never be subject to energy price hikes caused by illegal wars again.

Wiltshire Council therefore resolves to:

- 1) Work with the Government to ensure that it delivers the much-appreciated support to the residents of Wiltshire as quickly as possible.
- 2) Proactively identify those most in need of support in Wiltshire and ensure that they access all the Government support they are eligible for.
- 3) Identify local opportunities in Wiltshire for energy generation to help increase the supply of energy to further aid the long-term lowering of prices, support the Government's aim of domestic energy security and create local jobs.