

NOTICE OF MOTION

The following Notice of Motion has been submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 10 by Councillor S. Nock:

“BDC recognises the importance of the Winter Fuel Allowances to all our elderly residents.

Introduction:

The Winter Fuel Allowance has historically been a vital lifeline for pensioners, helping them to cope with the increased costs of heating during the cold winter months. The recent reduction or removal of this allowance will leave many elderly members of our community vulnerable to the harsh effects of cold weather, exacerbating health issues and leading to an increased risk of illness and mortality.

Background:

1. **Impact of Cold Weather on the Elderly:** Cold weather significantly affects the health and wellbeing of elderly individuals. Studies have shown that exposure to cold temperatures can lead to serious health complications such as hypothermia, increased blood pressure, respiratory problems, and exacerbated chronic conditions like arthritis and cardiovascular diseases. Moreover, the elderly are often on fixed incomes, making it difficult to absorb the rising costs of energy.
2. **Importance of the Winter Fuel Allowance:** The Winter Fuel Allowance was designed to mitigate these risks by providing financial assistance specifically for heating costs during the winter months. It has been an essential support mechanism, allowing pensioners to maintain a safe and comfortable living environment.
3. **Consequences of the Removal/Reduction of the Allowance:** The reduction or removal of the Winter Fuel Allowance will force many elderly individuals to make difficult choices between heating their homes and meeting other essential needs such as food and medication. This will lead to increased cases of cold-related illnesses and a rise in excess winter deaths among the elderly population.

We call upon the Leader of the Council to write a joint letter, signed by all Group Leaders, to the Chancellor of the Exchequer requesting:

- **That the Government acknowledges the importance of the Winter Fuel Allowance in protecting the health and wellbeing of pensioners.**
- **That the Government reinstates the Winter Fuel Allowance to all pensioners as part of the budget statement.**
- **That the Government commits to maintaining this allowance to prevent future risk to the elderly population during winter months.**

NOTICE OF MOTION

The following Notice of Motion has been submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 10 by Councillor H. Rone-Clarke:

“Council notes

- that we must invest in green methods of transportation in order to achieve our targets to reduce carbon emissions.
- that active travel and public transport will be integral in achieving this goal.
- that electric vehicles (EVs) will play an important role in our transition to clean energy.

Therefore, council resolves to ask the Cabinet to explore ways in which EV chargers can be better integrated within our infrastructure, including options for on-street parking, allowing residents who do not have access to a driveway, to purchase an EV of their own.”

NOTICE OF MOTION

The following Notice of Motion has been submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 10 by Councillor J. Elledge.

“Motion:

I am sure we all appreciate how important it is to our physical and mental health to undertake a certain amount of daily exercise, and that in order to ensure a healthy Bromsgrove population we should be constantly reviewing how we as a Council can facilitate this for our residents.

Bromsgrove Sports and Leisure Centre is a fantastic facility which offers a huge range of activities, which many of our residents already use. In order to encourage more residents to get involved we would like Council to consider offering free parking to users of the Centre, allowing enough time for someone to get changed, participate in a session or class, and shower etc afterwards. This would also reduce the existing issue of current Centre users parking on neighbouring roads and potentially causing parking issues for local residents, as they are unable to take advantage of the current 30 mins free parking as would be mid swim or mid class when the 30 mins expires. There are several ways this could be managed, the details of which could be confirmed should the motion be passed.

We therefore put it to Council that we ask the Cabinet to consider offering 2 hours free parking on the Council car park adjacent to the Sports Centre as part of the budget setting process.”