

Record of Decision

Mayor's Response to Notice of Motion - Protecting Torbay's Position following the EU Referendum

Decision Taker

Mayor on 27 October 2016

Decision

That the motion be rejected for the reasons given below.

Reason for the Decision

The Mayor considers it is premature and refers to the role of the Local Government Association in representing Local Government at a national level with the Government, and also the potential review by the Overview and Scrutiny Board on the United Kingdom leaving the European Union. The Mayor is also satisfied with the work being done by the Assistant Director of Community and Customer Services in connection with racism.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 10 November 2016 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

At the Council meeting held on 27 October 2016, the Mayor considered a motion in relation to Torbay's position following the result of the national referendum to leave the European Union, notice of which was given in accordance with Standing Order A14 by Councillors Sanders and Darling (S) as set out below:

That Torbay Council notes the result of the EU Referendum and now commits to doing everything that it can to protect, support and enhance the position of the residents of Torbay, in whatever new agreements are sought and reached with the European Union and its member countries and the rest of the world and otherwise, as a result of the Referendum decision to leave the EU.

In particular it believes:-

- (1) That the financial position of local authorities such as Torbay must not be further worsened and should, if possible, be improved.
- (2) That the Government must give an immediate guarantee that the existing rights of citizens of other European Union countries who are already living in Torbay will be protected.
- (3) That the importance of the Visitor economy and Hospitality Industry (including language schools and care homes) in Torbay must be recognised and their future protected.

- (4) That there must not be any weakening of environmental legislation, particularly relating to clean bathing waters, or employment rights that at present derive from EU directives.
- (5) That fisheries support for areas such as Torbay must be maintained by the Government following a withdrawal from the Common Fisheries Policy.
- (6) That convergence funding, European Social Funding, European Regional Development Funding and other EU derived funding must be replaced with funds from the UK Treasury.

This Council is further shocked by the reported increases in race hate crimes and antisocial behaviour directed at EU citizens in the UK and other ethnic minorities since the referendum result was announced, including in Torbay, and resolves to call an early meeting with the local police and other agencies to consider its response.

In accordance with Standing Order A14.3(a), the motion stood referred to the Mayor.

The Mayor responded to the motion at the meeting and gave further consideration to the issues in connection with racism after the meeting. His decision is set out above.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

None

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None

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2 November 2016

Signed: _____
Mayor of Torbay

Date: 2 November 2016

