



ADUR & WORTHING  
COUNCILS

Joint Strategic Committee  
9 November 2021  
Agenda Item 11

Key Decision: [Yes/No]

Ward(s) Affected: All Adur

## **Referral of Motion on Notice from Adur District Council**

### **Report by the Interim Director for Communities**

#### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1. This report sets out a motion (attached as Appendix 1) referred from the meeting of Adur District Council on the 28th October 2021.
- 1.2. Members of the Joint Strategic committee are asked to consider and determine the Motion.
- 1.3. Members can either support the motion and ask for further work to be carried out in this regard, or, members can reject the motion.

#### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1. That the Joint Strategic Committee support the motion and determine how further work is carried out; or,
- 2.2. That the Joint Strategic Committee reject the motion.

### **3. Context**

- 3.1. At its meeting on the 28th October 2021, Adur District Council received a motion from Councillor Lee Cowen, seconded by Councillor Debs Stainforth, details of which can be found at Appendix 1.
- 3.2 The motion submitted to Council contained subject matter that is within the remit of the Joint Strategic Committee, as defined in para 14.4.1 of the Council's Procedure Rules. Therefore, it was moved and seconded, immediately noted by the Council and referred without debate to the Joint Strategic Committee for consideration and determination.
- 3.3 Where a motion has been referred by Full Council to the Joint Strategic Committee, the mover, or the seconder in the absence of the mover, shall be entitled to attend the relevant meeting of the Executive and explain the motion. Councillor Lee Cowen has been made aware that the motion has been referred to this Committee.

### **4. Issues for consideration**

- 4.1 The Joint Strategic Committee can either support or reject the motion.
- 4.2 Should the Joint Strategic Committee support the motion, then the Committee should ask Officers to prepare a further report on the substantive issues to be presented at a future meeting of the JSC.

### **5. Financial Implications**

- 5.1 There may be direct financial implications in future depending on the course of action the Joint Strategic Committee wishes to take.

### **6. Legal Implications**

- 6.1 Rules concerning motions are set out in the Council's Constitution under paragraph 14 of the Council's Procedure Rules.

**Background Papers**

Motion to Adur District Council on the 28th October 2021

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### **Universal Credit motion**

4,912 people (and their families) in Adur have received the news that their Universal Credit will be cut by £20 a week, equating to £1040 per annum. People affected are not just those on out of work benefits but also people on low income and those on working tax credits. 45% of our claimants are already in work.

Many families have lost their jobs due to Covid and were forced to take poorer paid jobs through no fault of their own. We are seeing the use of foodbanks increase due to the rocketing supermarket and energy prices and charities warn it will push more families into poverty.

Business leaders say it will make it harder for local businesses to recover from losses during the pandemic because UC claimants will have even less to spend. Furthermore, there are plans to restart the migration to UC from legacy benefits which will reduce incomes for another group of vulnerable people.

This Council recognises the damaging impact of the cuts to Universal Credit and resolves to write to both Tim Loughton MP and the chancellor Rishi Sunak calling on them to reinstate the payments and by doing so show our support for families and local businesses who are facing hardship this winter.

**Proposed by Cllr Lee Cowen**  
**Seconded by Cllr Debs Stainforth**