

AGENDA ITEM 13 - Amendment

Changes to the Winter Fuel Allowance and Protecting Pensioners from Fuel Poverty

Amendment submitted by Councillors Pattison and Crook.

Under ‘This Council notes ...’

Paragraph 1 – delete all words after ‘only’ and add the words ‘the pensioners in the greatest need of support, identified by eligibility for pension credit, as announced by Chancellor Rachel Reeves.’

Delete Paragraphs 2 to 4

Add new paragraph

- The Labour Government’s decision to retain the pension triple lock, ensuring that pensioner basic incomes continue to rise by more than the winter fuel payment value.

Under ‘This Council believes ...’

Delete all text and replace with

- That all pensioners should have the right to a retirement without the fear of not being able to afford to eat and to heat their homes, and that the best way to achieve this is to ensure that the universal state pension is sufficient.
- That a move away from token one off payments to a more sustainable base pension value is the best way to achieve this over the longer term.
- That making payments to those not in need reduces the opportunity the government has to support not just pensioners but working families and all people who are suffering as a result of cost-of-living pressures.

Under ‘This Council resolves to ...’

- Delete paragraph 1 and replace with

‘Continue the Council-led local awareness campaign to ensure that all those eligible for pension credit and the winter fuel payment do receive that income.’
- Delete paragraph 2
- Paragraph 3; Replace the word ‘Encourage with ‘Continue’