

## **Motions not for Debate – 25 April 2023**

### **1. Voter suppression by the Conservative Government - Moved by Cllr Gary Malcolm, Seconded by Cllr Jon Ball**

Ealing Council notes the introduction of Voter Identification for elections from 4th May 2023, which will require voters to present an approved form of Photo ID at a polling station in order to vote. British people have just lost their unobstructed right to vote. This is nothing short of voter suppression by the Conservative Government.

Ealing Council further notes that there is little evidence that voter fraud is a systematic issue in UK elections and about 7.5% of voters do not currently hold an acceptable form of ID.

Ealing Council is deeply concerned that the requirement to provide Photo ID will present a significant barrier for thousands of residents in Ealing to exercise their right to vote – and these barriers will disproportionately effect those from minority ethnic, low income, disabled, LGBT+, elderly and young voter groups.

Ealing Council instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Cabinet Office to express the Council's complete opposition about the damaging effect on democracy that mandatory Voter ID will have in UK elections and to demand that this section of the new legislation is repealed immediately.

### **2. NAO report on fraud and corruption - Moved by Cllr Andrew Steed, Seconded by Cllr Connie Hersch**

Ealing Council notes the National Audit Office report 'Tackling fraud and corruption against government' which showed an increasing amount of fraud and corruption and that our government is failing to make the best use of tax payers' monies.

Ealing Council also notes that in 2020-21 there was up to £58.8 billion of fraud and error in government spending and income unrelated to the pandemic.

Ealing Council further also notes that the report stated that 'However, outside of tax and welfare, government still lacks robust assessments of where and what its fraud risks are.'

Ealing Council agrees that some of this lost money could have gone into helping local authorities like Ealing help vulnerable residents.

### **3. Warren Farm - Moved by Cllr Athena Zissimos, Seconded by Cllr Connie Hersch**

Ealing Council welcomes the fact that the Warren Farm Nature Reserve petition has already gained over 20,000 signatures. Warren Farm is a successfully self-rewilded area which provides a habitat for 20 endangered species including the ground nesting Skylark and vulnerable plant and insect species facing extinction such as Copse Bindweed.