

## **COUNCIL**

**17<sup>th</sup> JULY 2023**

## **MOTIONS**

### **(A) Refugees and Asylum Seekers**

To be moved by Cllr Julie Ireland and seconded by Cllr Will Connolly:

“Bromley Council, like other authorities, has a responsibility to house refugees and asylum seekers. The Council recognises the importance of supporting these individuals and the local community. While the Home Office leads the support for refugees and asylum seekers, the Council plays a role in ensuring they receive the necessary local services.

Council appreciates the valuable work to set up and run the Ukrainian Support Hub and aims to expand on its success. Additionally, Council acknowledges the generosity of the voluntary sector in the borough, which is eager to collaborate with the Council in supporting the new arrivals.

Therefore, Council recommends that the Executive:

1. Establish a Support Hub Service to coordinate local services and connect refugees and asylum seekers with other available support.
2. Collaborate with local partners, including other levels of government, non-profit organisations, and community groups, to ensure the effective delivery of services and support to refugees and asylum seekers in the borough, with a particular focus on preparedness for their arrival.
3. Serve as a liaison with the Home Office regarding the welfare of refugees and asylum seekers in the borough, with a strong emphasis on monitoring the quality of services provided by the Home Office's local contractors responsible for accommodation and meals.
4. Provide public information about the Council's role in supporting refugees and asylum seekers in the borough.
5. Allocate resources from existing budget allocations to operate the Support Hub and advocate for additional funding and support from other sources.”

## **(B) Council Support for LGBTQ+ Equality**

To be moved by Councillor Simon Jeal and seconded by Councillor (?):

“Bromley Council notes with concern the record rise in homophobic and transphobic hate crime in London and across the UK in recent years. The Council unequivocally condemns such acts - including the recent incident on 27th June (during Pride Month) of hate-crime motivated vandalism of floral displays, created by local primary school children, on Bromley High Street.

We reiterate our unwavering commitment to supporting LGBTQ+ people living, working and studying in Bromley, including the Council’s own staff and those accessing Council services. We will continue to work with Police, Health Service partners, Schools and employers across the borough to challenge anti-LGBTQ+ discrimination and provide inclusive services in line with our Equality Policy.

As part of this commitment, the Council agrees to establish a cross-party members’ task and finish group to consider options for Bromley Council, within existing budgets, to mark and celebrate events of significance to LGBTQ+ residents as part of the Civic calendar. To provide recommendations to this effect to the Mayor.”