

Motions Submitted to Council

In accordance with Chapter 2, Part 2 (Rule 15) of the Council's Constitution

Motion 1

Submitted by Councillor Fletcher

That this chamber recognises the unique community value of the Grangewaters Outdoor Education Centre as a place where our young people learn the skills, values and understanding of their environment that our borough urgently needs; and as an essential training facility for local groups as diverse as schools, triathletes and the Grays yacht club and that this chamber urges Cabinet to halt any plans to sell or close the centre.

Monitoring Officer Comments:

The motion relates to a matter affecting the authority and over which the Council has relevant functions. The Council has a duty to consider best value in its use of resources and this would include the consideration of the future of Grangewaters. It should be noted the management and decision making relating to Grangewaters are matters for the Cabinet. The Council cannot impose a direct instruction that the services remain.

Under rule 15.15 of the Council Procedure and Rules, as the subject matter of the motion is within the remit of the Cabinet, upon being moved and formally seconded, it shall stand referred without discussion to the Cabinet as the Council may determine, for consideration and report to the Council as soon as practical. At that time the motion shall be considered with any such report which shall include any appropriate risk assessment.

Section 151 Officer Comments:

The council is currently reviewing its operational estate to meet the objective of fewer buildings, better services and to reduce its running costs and the need for future investment. Grangewaters has been identified as an asset where the further consideration on whether it should remain as a core service is required. However, at this time, there are no immediate plans to either close or sell the asset.

Is the above motion within the remit of Council to approve?

Yes