

Labour Group amendment to Motion D

Proposer: Cllr Ejiofor

Seconder: Cllr das Neves

Council notes:

1. The invocation of Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union on March 29 2017 with the result that the UK is due to leave the European Union on March 29 2019
2. That at the time of submission, no agreement has been reached on a post-exit relationship between the UK and the EU

Council further notes:

1. The likely negative economic and fiscal impacts of Brexit negotiated by the current Government
 - i. The Government's internal analysis of Brexit concluded that output would be hurt under every scenario modelled and could reduce the UK's economic output by 8%.
 - ii. The Centre for European Reform estimates that as of June 2018, the UK's public finances were £23 billion a year (or £440 million a week) worse off than they would have been without the possibility of Brexit
2. The likely negative impact of Brexit on public sector recruitment. For example, the Nuffield Trust estimates that an interruption to migration from the EU could lead to a shortfall of as many as 70,000 social care workers by 2025/26
3. That in addition to uncertainty caused by the Brexit negotiations, the Council's ability to deliver services effectively has been adversely affected by the Austerity policies pursued by the coalition government and successive Conservative governments
4. That an estimated 54,000 Haringey residents are nationals of another EU member state. This represents almost a fifth of the borough's population
5. That Haringey voted 75.6% to 24.4% to remain in the 2016 referendum, which was the fifth highest remain vote in the country
6. That since the Brexit vote there has been a rise in hate crime of 41% reported by the Police
7. That since the Referendum and the triggering of Article 50, the Members of Parliament for Hornsey & Wood Green and Tottenham have worked tirelessly to protect the rights of the 54,000 Haringey residents who are nationals of another EU member state and to highlight the damage a Brexit deal as negotiated by the Government will cause to the UK

Council believes:

1. That the post-Brexit arrangements currently being put forward would leave the UK worse off than if it remained an EU member state as well as threatening the future, stability and make-up of the UK

2. That as a result the Government's negotiations are set to harm the welfare of Haringey residents and the population of the UK as a whole
3. That the Government's Brexit will adversely affect the Council's ability to provide services to the residents of Haringey
4. That the Brexit vote has created justified anxiety amongst citizens of the EU27 countries residing in Haringey and throughout the UK, particularly over the ambiguity surrounding their ability to remain in the UK; and that the government has not taken sufficient steps to reassure them and clarify their rights after Brexit
5. European citizens are an integral part of our diverse community in Haringey and their existing rights should be guaranteed immediately
5. That whilst the public voted to leave the EU, when people voted to 'take back control' they were not voting for fewer rights, economic chaos or to risk jobs
6. That workers in industries across the economy in ports, food, pharmaceuticals, manufacturing, energy, chemicals, in our public services and beyond are worried about the impact of a hard Brexit on livelihoods and communities.
7. That a no-deal Brexit should be rejected as a viable option
8. Stagnant wages, crumbling services and the housing crisis are being exacerbated not by immigration but by the Government and employers making the rich richer at working people's expense.
9. That in addition to the uncertainty cause by Brexit, the successive Governments' rigid attachment to austerity poses a significant danger to Council service provision in Haringey
10. That the far-right and neo-fascists have been emboldened by the Brexit vote and now pose a significant threat to the diverse communities, such as those which make up Haringey
11. That Racism and prejudice has no place in Haringey and the Council should mobilise all necessary resources to combat racism and prejudice in all forms from Haringey

Council believes in light of this:

1. Should Parliament vote down the government's Brexit deal or the talks end in no-deal, this would constitute a loss of confidence in the Government. In these circumstances, the best outcome for the country is an immediate general election, if this is not possible, this council must support all options remaining on the table, including campaigning for a public vote on the deal. If the Government is confident in negotiating a deal that working people, our economy and communities will benefit from they should not be afraid to put that deal to the public.

Council resolves:

1. To support the call for a general election should Parliament vote down a Brexit deal or talks end with a no deal, and if this is not possible, to keep all options on the table including campaigning for a public vote

2. That in order to exert pressure for a desirable outcome in parliament, it will ask the leader of the Council to write to the leader of every party represented in the House of Commons, asking them to support a call for a general election, or if this is not possible a public vote on the deal with all options remaining on the table or, where appropriate, thanking them for already doing so.
3. That the leader should write to other London boroughs requesting that given the importance and imminence of Brexit they debate their response to the ongoing negotiations soon, if they have not already done so
4. To ask the leader to write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government making a request under the Sustainable Communities Act 2007 for all governmental departmental information and analysis pertaining to the impacts upon Haringey's communities and businesses of the UK's withdrawal from the EU
5. To write to the Members of Parliament for Hornsey & Wood Green and Tottenham and thank them for their work in highlighting the devastating impact of the governments Brexit negotiations and for standing up for the rights of the 54,000 EU nationals who are Haringey residents
6. To ask the Cabinet to publish a report on contingencies in the event of Britain leaving the EU
7. To give a Cabinet Member the responsibility of ensuring the Council is adequately prepared for any result in the ongoing Brexit negotiations
8. To create a Brexit working group and appoint an EU Citizens Ambassador to work with EU citizens in Haringey and address concerns that they may have over the unclear relationship with the EU and their rights in the UK after March 2019
9. To highlight the positive impact migration, from EU member states, has had on Haringey and to affirm the Council's opposition to racism and prejudice in all forms and solidarity and common cause with all progressive and socialist forces confronting the rising tide of neo-fascism, xenophobia, nationalism and right wing populism in Europe, and where applicable to write to them affirming the Councils support
10. To campaign to persevere and improve all workers' rights which currently have a protection or backstop in EU regulations, including rights on equal treatment of agency staff, protection against dismissal and working hours and leave.