

**Notice of Motions and Amendments Received in Accordance with Standing Orders 23 & 24  
for the Council Meeting of 3 October 2024**

<b>Agenda Item Number</b>	<b>Proposer/ Seconder</b>	<b>Motion/Amendments</b>
5	Councillor Carragher Councillor A Stubbs	<p><b>Amended Motion</b></p> <p>Council Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 51 of the 1980 Education (Scotland) Act[6] requires local authorities to make such arrangements as they consider necessary for the provision of school transport for pupils residing, and attending schools, in their area.</li> <li>• Local authorities have a wide level of discretion in this regard.</li> <li>• When considering whether to make arrangements for the provision of school transport, local authorities are further required to have regard to the safety of the pupils.</li> <li>• Legislation does not prescribe the distance beyond which they must, nor distance below which they must not, provide transport.</li> <li>• It is for local authorities to determine the nature of the provision they offer.</li> </ul> <p>Council Understands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local authorities are expected to keep their criteria for providing school transport under review and be flexible enough to take into account factors, relative to the nature of the route, which might affect pupil safety.</li> <li>• North Lanarkshire Council has not undertaken a review of criteria for providing school transport since May 2018.</li> </ul> <p>Council Agrees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A member/officer working group is set up to thoroughly review and update the criteria used to provide school transport being flexible enough to take into account factors, relative to the nature of the route, ensuring at all times child safety is placed as the number one priority.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The recommendations of the member/officer working group to be submitted to the appropriate Committee of the Council to allow the updated criteria to be agreed and implemented in sufficient time to ensure necessary transport provision is in place before further changes are made to primary school provision.</li> </ul>
6	Councillor Smith Councillor Hughes	Withdrawn
7	Councillor A Stubbs Councillor McBride	<p><b>Composite Motion</b></p> <p>Council notes that a substantial majority of respondents to a consultation favour a change to the school holidays in North Lanarkshire and therefore agrees that a report should be brought for consideration at the February Education Committee to progress the aspirations of;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An early return to school following the summer break in August 2026</li> <li>Expanding the February break to one week from February 2027</li> <li>An expansion to the October holiday to two weeks beginning in October 2026</li> </ol> <p>This report will include an overall recommendation which will ensure that there is no detriment to the education/teaching offering.</p>
8	Councillor Crichton Councillor Brennan	<p><b>Motion</b></p> <p>“In realising the requirement for council to act transparently, and in particular towards providing relevant information to the electorate of North Lanarkshire, council hereby accepts and agrees to display publicly online, via the MARS system and any / all other appropriate means, all submitted council motions, whether deemed competent or non-competent by the Provost’s office.</p> <p>This in turn allows the electorate to better understand and reference the full scope of representation being made by elected members on their behalf.</p> <p>This process should be adopted for motions and amendments submitted in relation to all council meetings ongoing following 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024 full council meeting.</p> <p>In addition, a footnote from the Provost’s office should accompany any rejected motions specifically detailing the rationale behind refusal, based on the interpretation used to determine competency.</p> <p>We appreciate there may be a small or insignificant cost attaching to this motion (estimated by Chief Officer Finance as being £110 pa”</p>

	Councillor Roarty Councillor Fisher	<p><b>Amendment</b></p> <p>“That there be no change to standing orders in relation to the process for Motions and Amendments at this time.</p> <p>That a review of standing orders be undertaken, and a report be submitted to Council on 19 December 2024 for consideration”</p>
9	Councillor Carragher Councillor A Stubbs	Withdrawn

10	Councillor Ballinger Councillor Toner	<p><b>Composite Motion</b></p> <p>"Council notes the difficulties faced by those living with the challenges of neurodiversity.</p> <p>"Council agrees to table a committee report to consider the potential of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing neurodivergent-friendly sessions at NL Leisure venues, and the optimal times for these to be offered</li> <li>• Offering reduced lighting in NLC venues to support those who experience light sensitivity</li> <li>• Offering reduced noise levels for those who experience audio sensitivity</li> <li>• Delivering a communications campaign to encourage organisations within North Lanarkshire to consider neurodiverse-friendly services and facilities.</li> </ul> <p>"Council agrees to present a report to the appropriate committee before the end of committee cycle two 2025.</p>
11	Councillor Brennan Councillor McCluskey  Councillor Wilson Councillor Currie	<p><b>Motion</b></p> <p>"That Council agrees to instruct the Council Leader to write to the Labour Prime Minister, Sir Kier Starmer, to request the immediate reversal of his Government's punitive decision to introduce means testing to the Winter Fuel Payment.</p> <p>This decision is expected to negatively impact on the household incomes of around 40,000 NLC residents who received the payment last year, and is expected to remove around £7 million from the North Lanarkshire economy"</p> <p><b>Amendment 1<sup>st</sup> Received</b></p> <p>"That the Council expresses serious concern at the decision of both Labour and the SNP to scrap universal winter fuel payments for people of pensionable age.</p> <p>Notes that the Labour UK Government announced in July that winter fuel payments would now be means-tested and the SNP Scottish Government confirmed the cut would be implemented in Scotland during August.</p>

	<p>Councillor Costello Councillor Roarty</p>	<p>Understands there was no mention from Labour before or during the General Election campaign that universal winter fuel payments would be discontinued and the new administration at Westminster is taking forward the cut despite having inherited the fastest-growing economy in the G7, inflation back at 2 percent and stronger public finances than just about every other major advanced economy from the previous Conservative UK Government.</p> <p>Recognises that the Scottish Government is able to maintain universal winter fuel payments in Scotland and responsibility for the benefit is transferring to Holyrood with the SNP rebranding it as the pension age winter heating payment (PAWHP).</p> <p>Acknowledges that there are many occasions during the current Scottish Government's term of office where financial resources have been reallocated for the provision of additional funding to deliver on particular aims and in the area of social security, there is one high profile example of Ministers at Holyrood intervening to "fully mitigate" a decision made by the previous UK Government, which demonstrates the discontinuation of universal winter fuel payments in Scotland is because maintaining the support for all pensioners in North Lanarkshire and across the nation is not a priority issue for the SNP.</p> <p>Agrees that council will urgently write to the Labour Prime Minister, Keir Starmer and the SNP First Minister, John Swinney requesting that both the UK Government and Scottish Government reverse the decision to abolish winter fuel payments for most pensioners and retain the benefit on a universal basis"</p> <p><b>Amendment 2<sup>nd</sup> Received</b></p> <p>"That Council recognises the extremely challenging financial position facing the current UK Government; understands that as part of the devolution of social security policy and the creation of Social Security Scotland that the Scottish Government has the ability to set thresholds, eligibility criteria and amounts for winter heating payment; and therefore calls on the Depute Leader of the Council to write to both the Prime Minister and the First Minister to ask what courses of action they will embark upon, within the competencies of the Parliaments in which they serve, to protect pensioners in North Lanarkshire"</p>
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