

### Full Council

Date of meeting 21 July 2022

#### LABOUR GROUP AMENDMENT

##### Abortion Rights

That the relevant changes are made to the recommendations as shown below in strikethrough and ***bold italics***:

In light of the recent US Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe v Wade and the public perception that this could in turn erode abortion rights in the UK, this Council:

1. Reiterates its support for a woman's right to choose free, safe & legal abortion at a local, national and international level

2. Expresses solidarity with women internationally and within the UK and its fundamental belief that women need to feel safe attending an abortion clinic. We deplore intimidating behaviour outside clinics. Where abortion is or has been made illegal, it still continues but unsafely

3. Expresses support for the women of Northern Ireland where the government has failed to commission abortion services, despite legalisation to extend, forcing women to travel abroad for an abortion

4. Expresses its support for women's rights organisations campaigning for a woman's right to choose, including the Alliance for Choice in Northern Ireland and Abortion Support Network which are supporting women with practical information, accommodation and the costs of travelling

***5. Expresses dismay that abortion continues to be criminalised in England, Wales and Scotland, unless certain criteria apply, and that women are increasingly being prosecuted for accessing abortion, including migrant women, many of whom are denied access to free abortions on the NHS***

***56. Asks the Chief Executive to write to the Government to ask them to ~~include the right to abortion in their planned Bill of Rights.~~ remove abortion from the criminal statute book and regulate it as a health matter instead, ensuring free, safe and legal access across the UK***

Proposed by: Cllr Grimshaw

Seconded by: Cllr Appich

**Motion to read if carried:**

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1. Reiterates its support for a woman's right to choose free, safe & legal abortion at a local, national and international level
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3. Expresses support for the women of Northern Ireland where the government has failed to commission abortion services, despite legalisation to extend, forcing women to travel abroad for an abortion
4. Expresses its support for women's rights organisations campaigning for a woman's right to choose, including the Alliance for Choice in Northern Ireland and Abortion Support Network which are supporting women with practical information, accommodation and the costs of travelling
5. Expresses dismay that abortion continues to be criminalised in England, Wales and Scotland, unless certain criteria apply, and that women are increasingly being prosecuted for accessing abortion, including migrant women, many of whom are denied access to free abortions on the NHS
6. Asks the Chief Executive to write to the Government to ask them to remove abortion from the criminal statute book and regulate it as a health matter instead, ensuring free, safe and legal access across the UK