

North Tyneside Council Report to Council Date: 26 January 2012

ITEM 5

Title: Motions

Notice has been received of the following motions from Members of the Council to be put to the Council meeting:

**1. Motion signed by Mrs L Arkley, Elected Mayor and Councillors
J Wallace, L Miller, M McIntyre, P McIntyre**

“This Council resolves that the portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II be restored to its prominent position at all meeting of full Council.”

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this motion.

Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising from this motion.

**2. Motion signed by Mrs L Arkley, Elected Mayor and Councillors
Mrs J Bell, E Hodson, Mrs J Wallace, G Westwater**

“This Council welcomes the position of the Government and other parties in supporting the retention of the United Kingdom and endorses their view that any referendum question should require a simple ‘yes’ or ‘no’ answer rather than including a ‘devo max’ third option, which if chosen could allow the Scottish administration to continue to have a competitive advantage with the North of England in attracting businesses and jobs to their area.”

(Note: Devo max is not independence, but full fiscal autonomy. Under this proposal, rather than receiving a block grant from the UK Exchequer, the Scottish Government would receive all taxation raised in Scotland and then make a payment to the UK Government in London to cover Scotland’s share of services provided across the UK.)

Financial Implications

Any Scottish referendum “yes” vote or “devo max” vote involving full fiscal autonomy, were that to go ahead as an option, could impact on North Tyneside Council financially.

Assessing the exact implications for the Council's financial position of a "yes" vote or as a result of a "devo max" option is difficult to quantify at this stage, given the following factors can't yet be assessed with any degree of accuracy:

- The exact nature of the Scottish Referendum questions and what this could mean financially
- The options chosen and how for example a "devo max" vote would change national available resources
- The impact of the Government's forthcoming Local Government Resource Review on available national funding and for different areas
- The potential impact from any changes to the Barnett Formula and resulting funding provided to Scotland.

Legal Implications

There are no legal implications directly arising from this motion.