

Motion Supporting the Local Electricity Bill

The Local Electricity Bill has had its first reading in Parliament. The Bill seeks to adjust the energy market rules and enable the potential for local renewable energy supply businesses to increase twentyfold. This would help reduce fossil fuel pollution and reduce energy bills whilst giving a boost to local economies.

This Council:

- (i) Acknowledges the efforts that the Council has made to reduce its carbon emissions and move to renewable energy;
- (ii) Notes the disruption to energy market cause by international conflicts and the importance of energy security;
- (iii) And also recognises:
 - that very large financial setup and running costs involved in selling locally generated renewable electricity to local customers result in it being impossible for local renewable electricity generators to do so,
 - that making these financial costs proportionate to the scale of a renewable electricity supplier's operation would create significant opportunities for local companies, community groups and councils to be providers of locally generated renewable electricity directly to local people, businesses and organisations, if they wished, and
 - that revenues received by such local companies, community groups or councils that chose to become local renewable electricity providers could be used to help improve the local economy, local services and facilities and to reduce local greenhouse gas emissions;
- (iv) Notes that the Parliamentary Environmental Audit Committee, as a result of its 2021 Technological Innovations and Climate Change inquiry, recommended that a Right to Local Supply for local energy suppliers be established to address this;
- (v) Accordingly resolves to support the Local Electricity Bill, currently supported by a cross-party group of Members Parliament, including the local MPs that represent the Borough and which, if made law, would establish a Right to Local Supply which would promote local renewable electricity supply by making the setup and running costs of selling renewable electricity to local customers proportionate to the size of the supply company; and
- (vi) Further resolves to
 - inform the local media of this decision,
 - write to the new Secretary of State to make him aware of the Council's position

Proposed: Cllr Simon Tagg
Seconded Cllr Rupert Adcock