

# COUNCIL

30 OCTOBER 2019

**ITEM NO: 18**

**TITLE:** “Becoming a Fair Tax Council”

**PROPOSING COUNCILLORS:** Christine Grice, John Fahy, Matthew Morrow, Christine May, Leo Fletcher, Ivis Williams, Adel Khaireh, Olu Babatola, Ann-Marie Cousins, David Gardner, Mariam Lolavar, Mehboob Khan

The Royal Borough has supported fair trade since 2006 and works hard to promote the aims of the Fair Trade Foundation. In 2017 we published our independent Fairness Commission which set out a series of recommendations to improve mental health provision, relieve residents suffering from benefits sanctions, and provide additional support for residents burdened with unmanageable debt. The Leader of the Council put fairness as the fundamental theme at the heart of our next financial strategy. This motion, therefore, continues the theme of fairness in our Royal Borough.

At a time when Councils are struggling with deeper cuts, it makes sense that we use our spending power in favour of those companies that pay their taxes. As a public body we should take the lead in the promotion of exemplary tax conduct; by ensuring that companies are paying their proper share of tax and, as we go forward, refusing to go along with off-shore tax dodging when buying land and property.

We ask the Council to agree:

1. To sign up to the [Fair Tax Mark - Councils for Fair Tax Declaration](#)
2. To pursue exemplary tax conduct
3. To require greater transparency from suppliers
4. To implement the 2015 Public Contracts Regulations in respect of discretionary exclusions for non-payment of taxes.

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