

Motions

Motion 1 – Community Forums

To be moved by Councillor Kelly and seconded by Councillor Davidson.

This council believes that democracy and decision making is best done at a local level and that the general public are best served when their voice is heard at all levels. The township model in Rochdale Borough works well and community fora (forums) serve constituents well.

This council will:

- Undertake a review of local community forums and reinstate them where they do not currently operate.
- Remodel their working practices to allow stakeholders, organisations and charities to present regularly to local residents about their work and projects.
- Invite elected members to attend to deal with casework and local issues, with the option to hold one to one surgeries
- Use the review to seek residents views on ward and township schemes, initiatives and projects when appropriate.
- Use the forums to promote positivity in our wards and take positive action.

Motion 2 - Resolution on maternity services

To be moved by Councillor N. Emmott seconded by Councillor Meredith,

This Council believes:

That the decision by the then North West Strategic Health Authority to discontinue maternity services from Rochdale Infirmary in 2011, under the aegis of the *'Making It Better'* programme, has resulted in a situation where it is now practically impossible for babies to be born in Rochdale. For a town of our size and heritage, this has proven to be a bitter blow and that decision now needs revisiting.

Furthermore, we believe that the analysis upon which this decision was originally reached more than a decade ago is potentially out of date. There is anecdotal evidence to suggest that capacity constraints at the Royal Oldham Hospital frequently sees women redirected to other maternity units across Greater Manchester.

Council asks the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Health to restore maternity services to Rochdale as set out in this notice of motion.