



NOTICE OF MOTION

To be submitted to the meeting of Full Council to be held on:

12 July 2017 in accordance with Standing Order Number 6.

	Name (in capitals)	Signature
Proposer:	Councillor Stef Nelson	
Seconder:	Councillor Ron Hignett	

Support of the Votes at 16 Campaign

The Council notes that currently 1.5 million 16 and 17 year olds are denied the vote in public elections in the UK and that the campaign to lower the voting age is supported by thousands of young people across the UK. Furthermore, we note that following a nationwide consultation, the UK Youth Parliament supported lowering voting to 16 years of age as their national campaign.

This Council believes that:

- 1] 16 and 17 year olds are knowledgeable and passionate about the world in which they live and are as capable of engaging in the democratic system as any other citizen.
- 2] Lowering the voting age to 16, combined with strong citizenship education, would empower young people to better engage in society and influence decisions that will define their future;
- 3] People who can consent to medical treatment, work full-time, pay taxes, get married or enter a civil partnership and join the armed forces should also have the same voting rights as people aged over 18.

This Council resolves to:

Write to the Secretary of State for Communities & Local Government, asking that given their actions in lowering voting for the Scottish Referendum, government agree to now also extend the right to vote from 16 years of age for all other elections.

Continue to work with all Halton Schools and Colleges to enhance citizenship as part of the educational curriculum and to promote interest of young people in both local and parliamentary democracy.