

NOTICE OF MOTION

To be submitted to the meeting of Full Council to be held on: 2 March 2022

.....
in accordance with Standing Order Number 6.

	Name (in capitals)	Signature
Proposer:	Cllr KATHLEEN LOFTUS	KB Loftus
Seconder:	Cllr. Irene Bramwell.	I Bramwell.

Sexual Harassment, Sexual Violence and Bullying in Schools

A report was presented to the PPB of Children and Young People about Bullying, Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence involving Students.

Within the report it was made clear to the members that the reporting of incidents of Sexual Harassment Sexual Violence and Bullying in schools was not being as open as it should be. The Members were informed that when schools stated that no incidents had happened it would be to assume the opposite because this is a national problem. It was this assumption that prompted me to propose this motion.

I propose that all Local Authority School Governor's ask for every school, Governor's Board to Debate these issues at their next meeting and report back to next meeting of the PPB of C&YP Board.

The issues that need to be addressed are as follows,

1. Education, Young Adults need to be made aware of the impact that incidents of Bullying Sexual Harassment or Sexual Violence has on both the victim and the perpetrator. For both the impact could be life changing. For the victims their self-worth could be undermined for life, for the perpetrator if convicted their aspirations for employment will be greatly reduced and the stigma will last for years.

2. Actions by the Schools, Recording of incidents and support for the victim is essential.

All complaints must be taken seriously and investigated thoroughly, Each year group should have a named adult that a child from that year group can talk to. This person will need to be able to support the young person throughout the investigation. If the incident involves a criminal act the Police should be involved from the start.

3. Bullying, Some Schools in Halton already allow girls to wear trousers in school but those girls are often bullied by people making assertions of their sexual identity.

With the change's to the rules governing school uniforms (Thanks to Mike Amesbury) this could be the opportune time to encourage schools to promote Gender Neutral Uniform's (including Gym Kits) from September. This will be very economically beneficial for those parents on limited incomes.

I hope all Members can agree with me that these steps need to be taken, when you vote.

We all need to remember that as Councillors we are corporate Parents.