Fife Council – 12th November, 2020

Amendment for Motion 5

"Para 3, third line, remove MEN and insert ALL THOSE Para 6, second line, after, as widely as possible, insert:-To ensure that all those convicted during the 84 - 85 miners strike, are pardoned.

Will read as follows, :- see below

Independent Review of the Impact of Policing during the Miners' Strike 84/85

"Fife Council welcomes the Final Report of the Independent Review of the Impact of Policing on Affected Communities in Scotland during the Miners' Strike from March 1984 to March 1985, which was commissioned by the Scottish Government in 2018.

The Report concluded that it was impossible to separate out the impact of policing during the Strike from the many other factors at play during that time and recognised that, despite the constitutional, legal and cultural landscapes in Scotland having changed fundamentally in the 35 years since the Strike, the strength of feeling and the sense of injustice at the treatment of the miners and their families continues to be felt in mining communities.

We welcome the single recommendation in the Report which is that "subject to establishing suitable criteria, the Scottish Government should introduce legislation to pardon ALL THOSE convicted for matters related to the Strike".

Fife Council recognises the positive impact that this will have on ex miners, the families of deceased miners and the mining communities in Fife and we ask that the Scottish Government proceeds to introduce the necessary legislation as soon as practicable.

In its consideration of this legislation, we ask the Scottish Parliament to interpret the recommendation as widely as possible, TO ENSURE THAT ALL THOSE CONVICTED DURING THE 84 - 85 MINERS STRIKE ARE PARDONED, and to also consider the issue of compensation for unjustified loss of livelihoods and pension rights.

We also recognise the need for a UK wide public inquiry into the Strike and ask the Scottish Government to continue to press the UK Government to undertake this.

Finally, Fife Council thanks those who pressed for this Review and all who contributed in any way to the Report and its outcome, particularly the National Union of Mineworkers and the Retired Police Officers' Association as well as individual miners, police officers and members of the mining communities who provided accounts of their experiences in order to aid understanding and reconciliation."

We ask the Co Leaders to convey the views of Fife Council on this matter to the Cabinet Secretary for Justice."

Proposed by Councillor Bobby Clelland Seconded by