Notice of Motion

Motion to be moved by Councillor Drake-Davis:

Council notes that a Universal Basic Income (UBI) has the potential to improve wellbeing and provide another boost to our local economy and share out prosperity in the City by safeguarding its most vulnerable residents. UBI labs have been launched in Sheffield, Liverpool, Leeds and Kirklees in the North of England to explore the viability of the new policy idea in those prospective cities.

Council notes that many residents in Hull currently live in precarious circumstances where they struggle to plan for the future and just focus on surviving week by week.

Council also notes that many who work in either the gig economy or under zero hours contracts lack the job security afforded to previous generations and that even those who may seem be in traditionally safer employment are at the growing risk of redundancy from the increasing use of Artificial Intelligence and automation.

Council further notes that a UBI pilot in Hull would potentially generate additional money into the local economy and so it is in the City’s economic interests to be part of a pilot scheme - it could provide more financial security and stability for its residents during the pilot scheme period.

Council calls for officers to engage with key stakeholders in Hull to cooperate in setting up a UBI steering group and to continually be a part of the process of setting up a UBI lab in Hull. The Council would, as part of this, assist a UBI Steering Group to bid for funding in order to setup a UBI lab in Hull with the sole aim of successfully getting the funding to pilot a UBI in Hull.

Council also requests that the Chief Executive writes to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sajid Javid MP, requesting that the Government support piloting a UBI scheme in Hull.