

Bath and North East Somerset Council

Full Council 23 July 2020

Black Lives Matter

Labour Group to move:

Council notes:

- 1 With great sadness the killing of George Floyd in the United States and the justified outpouring of hurt and anger across the globe that followed his death.
- 2 Official figures showing that in 2018-19, the police in England and Wales were three times more likely to arrest a black person than a white person and five times more likely to use force. Black people were more than nine times as likely to be stopped and searched.
- 3 Since 1990, 1,743 people in England and Wales have died following contact with the police. As a proportion of the population, black people are more than twice as likely to die in police custody and force or restraint is more than twice as likely to be involved in their deaths.
- 4 The government's review into the impact of coronavirus has shown that black men and women are nearly twice as likely to die than white people in England and Wales.

Council believes:

- 5 Racism remains a shameful aspect of life in Bath and North East Somerset as elsewhere and must be confronted.

Council therefore resolves:

- 6 To stand in solidarity with protesters who are seeking to challenge the structural racism which exists in our society.
- 7 To play its full part in working to address deep-seated inequalities by:
 - (i) examining the culture of the Council;
 - (ii) consulting stakeholders to ensure that the Council meets the needs of those it serves;
 - (iii) reviewing its Corporate Equality Commitment and Equality Objectives to include additional specific race equality actions, including establishing a Race Equality Panel, and identifying the means to monitor progress towards race equality; and
 - (iv) considering how the work identified above should be taken forward and the timescales and mechanism for reporting back.

- *Motions approved at Council do **not** bind the Executive but may influence future decisions of the Cabinet.*
- *Councillors are reminded of their public sector equality duty which requires the Council to consider or think about how their policies or decisions may affect people who are protected under the Equality Act.*