

Amendment Received for Council – 12 October 2022

Item 8 (d) CONSERVATIVE GROUP AMENDMENT of the Motion Submitted by the Labour Group

Fracking

Trafford Council voted in November 2018 to reject Fracking in this borough.

Fracking was suspended in 2019 because of concerns about unpredictability of earth tremors as witnessed in Lancashire and the potential harm it would bring to local communities and the local environment.

Nothing has changed since then except the Conservatives we now have changed their leader and our prime minister. That a Prime Minister now who thinks that Fracking is the an answer to improving the UK's energy crisis security by creating home produced gas and that it will help boost economic growth.

A The founder of Cuadrilla representative Resources has said in a Guardian exclusive on 21 September 2022 that Fracking in the UK is difficult because its geology means it is not suitable harder and more expensive to extract gas in this manner and the population density of the UK is such that commercially viable wells are limited, further putting into question its viability.

The Government have signed up to crucial international commitments on net zero; Fracking potentially undermines these.

The wrong decisions on energy have already been made that mean that UK's commitment to reduce emissions rightly led to a reduction in the use of coal, but that reduction has led to an over 60% of our energy requirements now rely reliance on natural gas. The UK should be taking the opportunity to reduce this reliance on natural gas as we did with coal. Gas should stay in the ground to support our net zero commitments.

Fracking is an industry that has failed in the UK but it keeps getting brought back by Conservative governments being suggested as a silver bullet, despite the mounting evidence it will not be commercially viable or socially acceptable in this country.

Despite the Fracking fantasies of this government fervour of certain national politicians and think tanks and their potential financial incentives to local communities to accept Fracking. We, we call on this Council, its Councillors and the boroughs' MPs to reaffirm their rejection of Fracking in Trafford.

We further call on fellow neighbouring councils to reject Fracking too in Greater Manchester, Cheshire and Lancashire.