

Motion by Councillors P Barrett and K Harvey

The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Definition of Anti-Semitism

Motion to adopt **The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Definition of Anti-Semitism** - *“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”.*

This Council notes that:

- The UK was one of the first Countries to adopt the International Holocaust Memorial Alliance definition of Anti-Semitism.
- Adopting the international definition will ensure that culprits will not be able to get away with being anti-Semitic because the term is ill-defined, or because different organisations or bodies have different interpretations of it.
- As per the Public Sector Equality Duty enshrined in the 2010 Equality Act, the council must give due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination and advance equality of opportunity for members of communities with a protected characteristic, including Jewish people, such that they are able to participate in society on an equal footing with their non-Jewish counterparts.
- Anti-Semitism is one of the principal barriers to the participation of Jewish people in public, economic, political, and social spheres of life and must urgently be addressed.

This Council believes that:

- Adopting a definition of Anti-Semitism is essential to tackling Anti-Semitic behaviour in a targeted and effective manner.
- Without a definition of Anti-Semitism, one cannot identify how Anti-Semitism manifests itself and functions and therefore, cannot devise meaningful strategies to address it.

This Council will commit to:

- Work with schools, transport companies, the police force, and other public, third sector and private bodies to tackle Anti-Semitism at a local level.
- Collaborate with the local communities to challenge Anti-Semitism and to meet their needs such that they are encouraged to participate in public life.
- Take further steps to tackle and raise awareness of Anti-Semitism, such as organising training or holding local events on the issue.
- Work with other local stakeholders including local parliamentarians to raise awareness of Anti-Semitism in parliament