SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Council **DATE:** 25th July 2024

CONTACT OFFICER: Shabana Kauser

(For all enquiries) Principal Democratic Services Officer

07821 811 259

WARD(S): All

PART I FOR DECISION

MOTIONS SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL UNDER PROCEDURE RULE 14

The following motions have been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14:-

A) 1984 Sikh Genocide

(Moved by Councillor Akram, seconded by Councillor W Sabah)

"Slough Borough Council resolves:

- The Council agrees to be supportive of local campaigns in raising awareness of anti-Sikh discrimination. Recognising that Slough is home to a large Sikh community.
- The Council recognise and commemorate the 40th anniversary of the 1984 Sikh genocide in India and condemns the recent killings of Sikh activists in foreign countries;

That the Leader of the Council write to the Prime Minister, Foreign Secretary, Defence Secretary and our Member of Parliament outlining the following:

- This council supports efforts to seek justice for the victims of the 1984 Sikh genocide and urges the government to hold accountable those responsible for these atrocities;
- Strongly convey the very deep concerns felt by Slough residents by UK intelligence reports of Indian Government agencies targeting Sikh activists in Slough;
- The UK Government unequivocally condemn all human rights violations and abuses against Sikhs and minorities in India and Indian Administered Jammu & Kashmir;
- The Member of Parliament for Slough to convey the demand of Slough Sikh's to support a referendum on Independence in Punjab, India;
- Call upon the Foreign Secretary to investigate and advocate for the release and safe return of Jagtar Singh Johal, also known as Juggy Johal, a British Sikh, imprisoned in India under controversial circumstances, raising serious concerns about his human rights and treatment whilst in incarceration."

B) Slough High Street

(Moved by Councillor Hulme, seconded by Councillor Mohammad)

"The Council notes that it has been over 8 months since an update was provided to council regarding ADIA/British Land's approved planning permission. In that time, more shops are closing, crime and anti-social behaviour is rampant, and no further investment seems has been secured for our town centre, that is making a positive material impact to the lives of residents that live, work and visit in the town centre.

The Council therefore resolves to:

- (a) Instruct the council to get a formal response for councillors from ADIA/British Land over the current status of their plans.
- (b) Instruct the administration to develop a 'meanwhile use' policy within 6 months and present to councillors for scrutiny.
- (c) Facilitate the setting up of a Town Centre residents' group that can be properly consulted on issues affecting their neighbourhood.
- (d) Initiate a 3 monthly deep clean of the town centre and surrounding streets
- (e) Report back to councillors on 'Plan B' should the British Land proposals not be implemented."