

South Lanarkshire Council Unequivocally Condemns the Actions of the Prime Minister Boris Johnson and the Current Government in Proroguing the Parliament of the United Kingdom

Notice of Motion

Motion received in terms of Standing Order No 19 on 2 September 2019, proposed by Councillor Robert Brown, seconded by Councillor Mark McGeever, as follows:-

“South Lanarkshire Council unequivocally condemns the actions of Prime Minister Boris Johnson and the current government in proroguing the Parliament of the United Kingdom. The Council has identified Brexit as a major risk on the Council’s Risk Register.

Council holds that any suspension of Parliament ordered against the will of the House of Commons is antidemocratic and welcomes the recent decision of the Inner House of the Court of Session on the matter. This Council believes the recent actions of ministers are a dangerous and historic misuse of powers vested in the Crown, and are contrary to the core principles of the British constitution. Council laments that the present government has placed its own political interest ahead of its fundamental duty to uphold parliamentary democracy.

This Council notes that overwhelming majorities of MPs have consistently rejected leaving the EU either without an agreement, or under the terms of the Withdrawal Agreement negotiated between the previous Government and the EU. Further, in the 3 years since the 2016 Referendum, it has been demonstrated beyond doubt that there is no form of Brexit able to be delivered which is in the interests of Scotland or the United Kingdom and that the mandate of the 2016 referendum is now exhausted.

South Lanarkshire Council commends the cross-party efforts to defend the rights of elected representatives in parliament, and to prevent a deeply damaging and illegitimate Brexit being imposed against the wishes and the interests of most people in South Lanarkshire, Scotland and the United Kingdom.

This Council holds that the time has come to halt Brexit and that that this needless and harmful crisis should be resolved by returning the question to the public through a People’s Vote.”