

Motion on Support for calling a Ceasefire in Palestine and Israel

This Council:

Condemns the murder of innocent civilians, the taking of hostages and the subsequent death and destruction in Gaza. This Council believes that there must be an urgent priority to stop the deaths and suffering of anymore civilians internationally, and to prevent potential harm caused directly and indirectly to Sefton Residents both at home and abroad. This Council expresses deep sympathy for all those affected by the conflict in Israel and Palestine. To those in Sefton who have been affected by this conflict we offer our support in this difficult time.

Believes in calls for an immediate permanent ceasefire to allow more aid into Gaza and Palestine, and to help the possibility of a peaceful resolution. This Council hopes that international intervention can ensure more aid is able to flow through the region to help with this humanitarian disaster. This would result in a reduction in the loss of lives, and the distress caused internationally, and reduce the stress and harm caused to those directly and indirectly impacted within our borough.

Believes that the tragic recent events in Palestine and Israel must not be allowed to divide our communities in Sefton. This Council therefore condemns the increase in Anti-Semitic and Islamophobic violence and abuse in the UK and believes that all forms of racism have no place in our Borough. This Council believes Jews, Muslims and people of all faiths should feel safe in Sefton.

This Council resolves to:

1. Offer support to any local residents who needs our assistance as a result of these violent events.
2. Be ready to provide support and open our arms to innocent people displaced and affected by these events.
3. Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition to express the Council's view that there should be an urgent permanent ceasefire in Gaza, the rest of Palestine and Israel and every effort should be made to resume the peace process, including upholding humanitarian Law to ensure civilians everywhere are protected.