

Notices of Motion Submitted Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule No 5.18

To receive the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor D Aikman, seconded by Councillor Mrs J Anderson:-

“This Council notes that Gurkhas have played an active front line part in the British Army’s activities in times of war and peace for nearly 200 years. In this period approximately 300,000 have fought alongside United Kingdom soldiers, with 45,000 of them being either killed or wounded.

This Council notes that the Government announced in September 2004 a change in immigration rules that allowed Gurkhas who had served in the British Army to settle in the United Kingdom with their families.

This Council notes with concern however that this offer has only been extended to cover those Gurkhas who had served at least four years and been discharged after 1 July 1997.

This Council believes that, given the exceptional service they have given to the United Kingdom, Gurkhas and their families should be given fast track eligibility for either the right to remain or citizenship.

This Council:

- (1) Requests the Chief Executive to write to the Local Government Association asking them to lobby the Government on this matter.
- (2) Instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Prime Minister requesting that all retired Gurkhas who fought in the British Army are given the right to citizenship, as well as a fair deal on pensions.”