

# Public Document Pack

Late Item - White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Lewis) - Middle East

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## COUNCIL MEETING – 17th JANUARY 2024

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper	Additional WP	16/1/24	16/1/24

Submitted by:	Councillor James Lewis
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Leader of Council
Relevant Director	Director of Communities, Housing and Environment

Council recognises the impact the conflict in the Middle East is having on many citizens in Leeds, in particular our Muslim and Jewish communities, and therefore Council calls for urgent action to bring about a lasting ceasefire from all parties in the region.

In the face of horrific violence and thousands of civilian lives lost on and since October 7<sup>th</sup> 2023, this Council believes that the release of hostages, expanded humanitarian access and a total cessation of hostilities from all sides is the only way to begin working towards a lasting peace in the region, with the dignity and security that both Palestinians and Israelis deserve.

Council understands that there are great differences in how people view the conflict, the respective rights and wrongs, and the solutions to bring about peace in the area. However, despite those differences, we must ensure that people are able to go about their lives in our city freely, with confidence, and without fear of intimidation, harassment, or hatred.

Council is proud that in December a hugely successful conference was held on Antisemitism and Anti-Muslim Prejudice to address these issues, attended by many key representatives and community leaders working across the city. The solidarity and commitment to work together to support both Jewish and Muslim communities was clear and powerfully articulated and we intend to work towards a common objective to ensure that Leeds remains a safe and welcoming place for all.

### Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
  - Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
  - Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting
- (including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

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