

Council Meeting

29 November 2023

Motion submitted by Councillor Ahmed under Council Procedure Rule 14

Get Me Home Safely

This Council notes:

- Shift work is widespread in many industries such as hospitality, health and care, retail, cleaning, and security. This can often involve late-night working.
- Many workers, especially women, are increasingly worried about their safety travelling to and from work at night.
- Safe and affordable routes home are also vital for people who go out in Calderdale at night to visit bars, restaurants, theatres and other hospitality venues.
- There are very few night bus services in Calderdale after 10:00pm to transport workers and members of the public home, and no services after midnight.

This Council believes:

- While employers may feel their duty of care ends when an employee finishes a shift, they also need to take into consideration the safety of staff journeys home especially during unsocial hours.
- Enforcement of the law against sexual assault on public transport is weak and only 2% of victims go on to report sexual harassment on public transport.
- Unite the union's Get Me Home Safely campaign calls on employers to take all reasonable steps to ensure workers are able to get home safely from work at night.
- Greater numbers of trained staff and stronger enforcement of the law against sexual assault and harassment on public transport are urgently needed.

This Council resolves:

- To ask officers to consider the development of a voluntary charter for employers of night staff to ensure staff get home safely after work. This could include bidding for financial assistance from the Government's Safety of Women at Night Fund to help businesses provide their staff with safe and affordable transport options.
- To work closely with the Mayor of West Yorkshire on initiatives to improve the safety of women and girls in Calderdale, particularly at night.
- To take every opportunity to highlight the importance of late night and off-peak services in work by the Mayor of West Yorkshire and West Yorkshire Combined

Authority to improve mass transit in Calderdale. This includes a continuing focus on affordable fares.