

COUNCIL
21 JULY 2015

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

SUBMITTED UNDER PARAGRAPH 4.18 OF THE CONSTITUTION

1. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR ANTHONY HUNT

This Council notes:

1. That the EU and USA launched negotiations in July 2013 on a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP).
2. That negotiations are underway to determine which goods and services TTIP will apply to and if new rules can be agreed to protect investors, harmonise standards, reduce tariffs and open new markets throughout the EU and USA.
3. That there has been no impact assessment about the potential impact on Local Authorities.
4. That there has been no scrutiny of the negotiating texts by Local Government and no consultation with Local Government representatives.
5. That MPs are also unable to scrutinise the negotiating documents.

This Council believes that:

1. TTIP could have a detrimental impact on local services, employment, suppliers and democratic decision-making.
2. A thorough impact assessment of TTIP on Local Authorities must be undertaken before the negotiations can be concluded.
3. The proposed Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) mechanism has been used by corporations to overturn democratic decisions by all levels of Governments, and that local decision-making must be protected.
4. The EU's food, environmental and labour standards are better than those in the US and TTIP negotiations must raise and not lower standards.
5. Sourcing supplies and employment locally is important to strengthening local economies. TTIP must not impact on Local Authorities' ability to act in the best interests of their communities.

This Council resolves:

1. To voice our concerns about TTIP publically.
2. To write to Welsh MEPs to raise our concerns about the impact of TTIP on Local Authorities, and about the secrecy of the negotiating process.
3. To call for an impact assessment on the impact of TTIP on Local Authorities.