

FULL COUNCIL MOTION – 15 SEPTEMBER 2015

CITY OF SANCTUARY STATUS – ALTERED MOTION c

Cllr Tincknell to move:

“This Council calls on the Mayor to give real meaning to our “City of Sanctuary” status by working with housing providers, charities, faith organisations and other partners to ensure that Bristol City Council plays its part in housing refugees caught up in the current humanitarian crisis.

We especially call on the Mayor to agree as a matter of urgency to authorise officers to accept refugees from Syria under the government’s Vulnerable People Resettlement scheme. We are aware that this issue was raised with the Mayor as early as February of this year, and would therefore urge him to take immediate action.

Bristol City Council, as a City of Sanctuary must agree to play a significant role in accepting refugees. Glasgow, Kingston (London), Birmingham and Edinburgh have already agreed to take 50 refugees each. As one of the larger cities in the UK, Bristol City Council should immediately pledge to take 50 refugees as a starting point towards playing our part in hosting refugees fleeing conflict from across the world.

This Council further asks the Mayor to write to HM Government asking them to support cities and communities who want to make a difference at least for some of these refugees.”