
Report To:	Inverclyde Council	Date:	15 February 2024
Report By:	Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services	Report No:	LS/008/24
Contact Officer:	Diane Sweeney	Contact No:	01475 712147
Subject:	Closure of EE Call Centre – Notice of Motion by Councillor McCluskey		

1.0 PURPOSE AND CONSIDERATIONS

- 1.1 For Decision For Information/Noting
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to advise the Council of the receipt of a Notice of Motion by Councillor McCluskey, countersigned by Councillor Clocherty, regarding the closure of the EE call centre in Greenock.
- 1.3 The terms of the Notice of Motion are set out in appendix 1 to the report.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Council is asked to consider the Notice of Motion by Councillor McCluskey.

Iain Strachan
Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services

Appendix 1

Council notes:

1. The announcement by BT Group that they plan to close the EE call centre building in Greenock.
2. Around 450 people are employed at site and most of the workforce are drawn from the Inverclyde area.
3. While there are no redundancies, this removes a significant number of jobs from the local area, with a knock-on effect on the local economy that is likely to get worse over time.
4. Despite repeated calls for financial support, the Scottish Government has so far not provided a penny of support in response to job losses over the past year and has not responded to calls made by the Inverclyde Socioeconomic taskforce for more investment six months ago.

Council believes:

5. In the past year alone, around 1,000 jobs have been lost from the Inverclyde area because of site closures.
6. Each job lost represents a loss to the individual, but also a loss to the Inverclyde economy. We cannot afford to lose more jobs from the area.

Council resolves:

7. To ask the Leader of the Council to communicate the Council's opposition to these job cuts to BT Group and the Scottish and UK Governments.
8. To work with BT Group and the Scottish and UK Governments to establish if there is a way to keep the site open and to keep jobs in Inverclyde, subject to any necessary Council approvals being obtained in the normal way.
9. To ask the Leader of the Council to write to the Scottish Government expressing our frustration that they have not come forward with any funds to support the Inverclyde economy in response to the requests from the Inverclyde taskforce.

Proposed: Councillor Martin McCluskey

Seconded: Councillor Jim Clocherty