

# Draft council motion



**GET ME  
HOME  
SAFELY**

Unite is running the 'Get me home safely' campaign to ensure safe home transport is widely available for night time economy and shift workers who often struggle to find and pay for transport home after midnight. –You can read more about the campaign [HERE](#) – INSERT LINK.

Below we have drafted a model motion for Councils, who have a key role to play in ensuring that people working and living within their local community can get home safely.

## **This Council notes that;**

- Shift work is widespread in many industries, particularly hospitality, as well as health and care workers, retail, cleaning, security and porter staff and can often entail late-night working;
- Many workers, especially women, are increasingly worried about their safety travelling to and from work at night

## **This Council believes that;**

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

## **This Council will;**

- Use its powers - as others such as East Dunbartonshire Council - and adopt a policy that our licensing board will ensure the process for approving late night licences will be linked to the provision of free transport home.
- Calls on our [local council name] to use its powers - as others such have done – to allow our licensing board include additional criteria when considering late opening applications from licensed premises dependent on venues providing free transport home for night shift employees. This will significantly benefit the safety and wellbeing of hospitality workers, particularly women, who often cannot afford, or access, safe transport options late at night and benefit our community.
- Publically call for improvement to late night and off-peak transport service provision, and use the Government's Safety of Women at Night Fund to provide extra night services, as well as work with employers to use the fund for supplementary taxi travel.
- Publically call for the lowering of fares and opposition to any cuts to public transport funding and for our local council/Mayor in England/Scottish and Welsh devolved Parliaments to use their powers and political platforms to achieve this.
- Publically call for the municipal ownership of buses in order to lower prices and improve service provision, especially for night-time and off-peak services;
- Make representation to appropriate regional and national levels of governance to bring forward national minimum standards for taxis and private hire as per the recommendations of the Task and Finishing group and in support of this motion and its demands on behalf of our local community.