

Redditch Borough Council

27th January 2025

Motions on Notice

1. Protecting Our Farmers and Family Farms

Proposed by Councillor Craig Warhurst and seconded by Councillor Matthew Dormer

“Council notes that:

- Redditch and its surrounding villages have a proud history of supporting farmers and a deep connection to the land they farm.
- Inheritance Tax reliefs like Agricultural Property Relief (APR) and Business Property Relief (BPR) have been essential in helping farmers pass on their farms to the next generation after a death, allowing the farms to stay within the family, and preserving agricultural production and stewardship of the countryside.
- The Labour Government’s recent 2024 Autumn Budget changes to Inheritance Tax relief will impose an effective 20% tax on agricultural assets valued over £1 million, introducing what has been termed the “Family Farm Tax.”

Council notes that the family farm taxes risk:

- Reducing land availability for farming across the Borough and damaging the ability for farmers to pass their farms to their children;
- Making food production at competitive prices more difficult for the Borough..

Council resolves:

- That the Leader writes on behalf of the Council to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the 6 Worcestershire MPs, outlining the Council’s dismay at the decision to restrict APR and urging the Government to halt the Family Farm Tax.
- To ask the Executive to consider engaging with local farmers and community representatives to assess how the Council can provide practical support during this challenging period.
- To call for a detailed list of affected farms to better understand and address the impact of these changes.”

