

The Rt Hon Hazel Blears MP
Secretary of State
Department for Communities and Local Government
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8 December 2008

Dear Secretary of State,

## The Mugabe Regime in Zimbabwe

During a debate at full Council on the matter of doing business with the Mugabe regime in Zimbabwe, this Council approved the following resolutions:-

## That this Council:

- (i) condemns in the strongest terms the human rights and other abuses perpetrated by or in association with the Mugabe regime in Zimbabwe:
- (ii) expresses its recognition, support and respect for the human rights of individuals and to actively promote human rights;
- (iii) asks the Chief Executive to write to the Trustees of the Surrey County Council Pension Fund and encourage their adoption of an ethical investment policy, so far as is consistent with proper financial stewardship and securing the best return for its beneficiaries; and
- (iv) writes an open letter to the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, the Rt Hon. Hazel Blears MP, requesting enablement through statutory instrument to permit a preference for doing business with companies that have no involvement with the Mugabe regime in Zimbabwe.

My purpose in writing is to ask you to consider the request in resolution (iv) above, to provide a means whereby the Council can express its grave concerns about the Mugabe regime through positive action. I have written in similar terms to the Prime Minister.





I look forward to your response in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Ray Morgan Chief Executive

For further information please contact Peter Bryant 01483 743030 (Direct Line) or Email Peter.Bryant@woking.gov.uk