



WORTHING BOROUGH
COUNCIL

Council
22 February 2022

Ward(s) Affected: All

Motion on Notice

Report by the Director for Communities

Officer Contact Details:-

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Executive Summary

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The report before Council sets out a motion received from Councillor Edward Crouch which has been seconded by Councillor Hazel Thorpe.
- 1.2. Council is asked to deal with the motion under provisions set out in paragraph 14 of the Council Procedure Rules (under part 4 of the Council Constitution - Rules of Procedure).

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That the motion, upon being moved and seconded, be noted by Council and referred without debate to the Joint Strategic Committee.

3. Context

- 3.1 A motion on notice has been received from Councillor Edward Crouch, (attached as Annex A).
- 3.2 The content of the motion is relevant to a matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties and which affects the Borough.
- 3.3 The motion before Council contains a subject matter that is within the remit of the Joint Strategic Committee, as defined in para 14.4.1 of the Council's Procedure Rules. Therefore, it shall be moved and seconded, immediately noted by the Council and referred without debate to the Joint Strategic Committee for consideration and determination.
- 3.4 If a motion on the agenda at Full Council is to be referred automatically to the Executive, a Regulatory Committee or another Council Committee, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14.4, the proposer of the motion will confirm to the Chairperson their proposal of the motion as set out in the report before Council **without** a speech.
- 3.5 Where a motion has been referred by Full Council to the Joint Strategic Committee, the mover, or the seconder in the absence of the mover, shall be entitled to attend the relevant meeting and explain the motion.

4. Issues for consideration

- 4.1 Motions considered by Full Council are done so under part 14 of the Council's Procedure Rules.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 The motion has subject matter that comes within the remit of the Joint Strategic Committee and should the Joint Strategic Committee determine that the motion be accepted there may be financial implications in the future.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 Rules concerning motions are set out in the Council's Constitution under paragraph 14 of the Council's Procedure Rules.

Background Papers

None.

Habitat enhancements in new buildings

1. This Council recognises the ecological crisis that threatens the natural world and its causes which include the consequences of climate change. Droughts, fires, floods, storms and heat waves, together with increased urbanisation and pollution have all resulted in significant loss of natural habitat for birds, insects and other wildlife
2. This council recognises that pollinators, such as bees, play an essential role in food production, accounting for up to £440m of added value in UK agriculture, equivalent to 13% of all UK farming income. The bee population has been in alarming decline in recent years due to a number of factors. These include the use of toxic pesticides, herbicides, and the uprooting of vegetation notably of hedges.
3. While natural habitats continue to decline, this Council supports the introduction of enhanced habitat features into the built environment by requiring their inclusion in all new buildings in the borough.
4. Examples of schemes adopted in other local authorities include “bee bricks” which provide ready-made habitat for bees in the form of a masonry brick; and “swift boxes” that are specially designed as nesting spaces for this threatened species.
5. This council requests that the Director for the Economy presents an options report to the next available Joint Strategic Committee meeting to enable a scheme to be adopted and amendments made to the relevant local planning policy document(s)

Proposed: Cllr Edward Crouch, Deputy Leader

Seconded: Cllr Hazel Thorpe

Sources:

<https://www.rsb.org.uk/policy/policy-issues/environmental-sciences/bees>

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/our-work/conservation/conservation-and-sustainability/safeguarding-species/swiftmapper/are-your-swifts-under-threat/>