



Council  
5 April 2022

# WORTHING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ward(s) Affected: All

## Motion on Notice

### Report by the Interim Director for Communities

#### Officer Contact Details:-

Neil Terry

Democratic Services Lead

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## Executive Summary

### 1. Purpose

- 1.1. The report before Council sets out a motion received from Councillor Vicki Wells which has been seconded by Councillor Martin McCabe.
- 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 Vicki Wells, (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.

## **Glyphosate-Free Worthing**

1. This Council recognises the biodiversity decline in species of pollinating insects including bees, wasps, hover flies, moths, butterflies and beetles due to the destruction of natural habitats. Pollinating insects are the 'key workers' that ensure the successful fertilisation of flowering plants. This Council acknowledges that over 40 vascular plant species including flowering plants, formerly recorded in Sussex have become extinct in the last 60 years.
2. This Council acknowledges that glyphosate based herbicides and pesticides have been traditionally used to maintain Worthing's green, open public spaces including parks and bowling greens and on hard standing areas including the Promenade.
3. Glyphosate-based pesticides and herbicides have a devastating impact on both flora and fauna and are associated with several forms of cancer and have been banned or restricted in many countries including France, Denmark and The Netherlands. This Council agrees that Worthing's green, open spaces need to be safe for children, pets and patrons and places that enhance biodiversity.
4. Over 80 local authorities across the UK have phased-out or put measures in place to phase out toxic pesticide use. Other local authorities have unanimously passed a Motion to phase out the use of glyphosate and have adopted non-chemical alternatives.
5. This Council calls on the administration to set out a plan to employ safe and environmentally friendly alternatives and phase out the use of glyphosate and other synthetic herbicides and pesticides in all parks, public green spaces and hard standing areas within the next 18 months.

### References

<https://www.iarc.who.int/featured-news/media-centre-iarc-news-glyphosate/>

<https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/insect-pollination.html>

<https://www.pan-uk.org/alternatives-to-herbicides-a-new-guide/>

**Proposer:- Councillor Vicki Wells**  
**Seconder:- Councillor Martin McCabe**