



Key Decision: [Yes/No]

Ward(s) Affected: All Worthing

Referral of Motion on Notice from Worthing Borough Council

Report by the Interim Director for Communities

1. Purpose

- 1.1. This report sets out a motion (attached as Appendix 1) referred from the meeting of Worthing Borough Council on the 5th April 2022.
- 1.2. Members of the Joint Strategic committee are asked to consider and determine the Motion.
- 1.3. Members can either support the motion and ask for further work to be carried out in this regard, or, members can reject the motion.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That the Joint Strategic Committee support the motion and determine how further work is carried out; or,
- 2.2. That the Joint Strategic Committee reject the motion.

3. Context

- 3.1. At its meeting on the 5th April 2022, Worthing Borough Council received a motion from Councillor Vicki Wells, seconded by Councillor Martin McCabe, details of which can be found at Appendix 1.
- 3.2 The motion submitted to Council contained 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 was moved and seconded, immediately noted by the Council and referred without debate to the Joint Strategic Committee for consideration and determination.
- 3.3 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 of the Executive and explain the motion. Councillor Vicki Wells has been made aware that the motion has been referred to this Committee.

4. Issues for consideration

- 4.1 The Joint Strategic Committee can either support or reject the motion.
- 4.2 Should the Joint Strategic Committee support the motion, then the Committee should ask Officers to prepare a further report on the substantive issues to be presented at a future meeting of the JSC.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 There may be direct financial implications in future depending on the course of action the Joint Strategic Committee wishes to take.

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

Motion to Worthing Borough Council on the 5th April 2022

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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
Secunder:- Councillor Martin McCabe