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SOUTHEND-ON-SEA CITY COUNCIL

Meeting of Climate, Environment & Waste Working Party

Date: Monday, 25th November, 2024

Place: MS Teams

Present: Councillor L Hyde (Chair)
Councillors S Badger, K Buck, M Davidson, J Moyies and C Nevin

In Attendance: R Harris, J Gay, E Georgeou and A Penn

Start/End Time: 6.00 - 7.15 pm

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mulronev and Nadeem (no substitutes).

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this meeting.

3 Notice of Motion - Animal Welfare

The Working Party considered a report of the Executive Director (Environment and Place) concerning a Notice of Motion for animal welfare referred by Cabinet.

The Working Party asked questions which were responded to by officers.

Resolved:

1. That Cabinet be recommended to endorse the recommendations set out in appendix 1 to the submitted report, namely that:

- An annual report to (and directed by) The Portfolio Holder is prepared in January, summarising actions of the previous calendar year.
- The Webmaster to add licence expiry dates to the website to facilitate better checks by website owners and purchasers.
- The MySouthend Team to create a form to report suspicious activity in licensed premises.
- The Media team to liaise with Police media team to consider a joint campaign highlighting reporting methods.
- The Council bans the giving of live animals as prizes, in any form, on Southend City Authority land.

4 Tree Canopy Cover (including Notice of Motion - Tree for Every Child)

The Working Party considered a report of the Executive Director (Environment and Place) concerning a Notice of Motion for a tree for every child referred by Cabinet.

The Working Party asked questions which were responded to by officers. The Working Party also discussed in general the tree canopy cover across the City and the options for planting trees and other types of plants.

The Working Party suggested that trees could be planted on a seasonal birth basis (e.g. one tree for number of births in January, February, March, etc). The Working Party also noted that it was essential to have species variation across the City.

Resolved:

1. That Cabinet be recommended to note the Notice of Motion 'A Tree for Every Child' as amended at Council on 18th July 2024.

2. That Cabinet be recommended not to take forward in full the proposals in the Notice of Motion for the reasons set out in the submitted report to the Working Party, namely the challenges of locations, land availability and cost would be prohibitive and unsustainable.

3. That Cabinet be recommended that officers develop, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Climate, Environment and Waste, an alternative proposal for tree planting as set out in the submitted report to the Working Party which can be integrated into the City Day 2025 programme of activities.

5 Pollinator Strategy

The Working Party considered a report of the Executive Director (Environment and Place) presenting the draft Pollinator Strategy for consideration.

The Working Party discussed the strategy in detail and noted the next steps in its development. The Working Party also discussed the wider aspects of biodiversity.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

6 Date and time of next meeting

To be advised.

Chair: _____