

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE THURSDAY
30 MAY 2019**

**ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:
THURSDAY 13 JUNE 2019**

NOTICE OF MOTION - EQUALITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

(Contact: Keith Butler Tel: (01993) 861521)

1. PURPOSE

To consider the Notice of Motion regarding equality and the environment referred to the Economic and Social and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committees by the Council and to make recommendations accordingly.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That consideration be given to the Notice of Motion as set out below.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 At the meeting of the Council held 24 April 2019, the following motion was proposed Councillor Duncan Enright and seconded by Councillor Andrew Coles, namely:-

“This Council is very concerned at the continued growth in use of voluntary sector emergency provisions such as food banks, and also recognises the increased demands on public services, resulting from inequality and insecurity.

The Council therefore agrees to add a statement at the end of each officer report, giving a statement or impact assessment of policies on equality and the environment in West Oxfordshire.

This will focus attention on the importance of tackling inequality, insecurity and environment, and encourage us all to look after each other and build strong community responses led by innovative and creative local government.”

3.2 In accordance with paragraph 11(e) of the Council Procedure Rules, it was resolved that the motion should stand referred without discussion to the Economic and Social and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committees. The relevant extract from the minutes of the Council meeting is attached as Appendix A.

3.3 Members are invited to put forward their views and recommendations which will be submitted to a future meeting of the Council.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This report has no financial implications.

Keith Butler
Head of Democratic Services

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Date: 13 May 2019

Background Papers:

None

NOTICE OF MOTION – COUNCIL REPORTS: EQUALITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The following motion had been received in the names of Councillors Duncan Enright and Andrew Coles, namely:-

“This Council is very concerned at the continued growth in use of voluntary sector emergency provisions such as food banks, and also recognises the increased demands on public services, resulting from inequality and insecurity.

The Council therefore agrees to add a statement at the end of each officer report, giving a statement or impact assessment of policies on equality and the environment in West Oxfordshire.

This will focus attention on the importance of tackling inequality, insecurity and environment, and encourage us all to look after each other and build strong community responses led by innovative and creative local government.”

In accordance with paragraph 11(e) of the Council Procedure Rules, The Chairman indicated that she considered the subject matter of the foregoing motion to fall within the remit of the Economic and Social Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor Enright welcomed the suggestion of feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and requested that the Motion also be referred to the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee in order to receive that Committee’s views. He advised that he had first come across this model at the County Council and considered that such arrangements would prompt Officers to reflect on the content of their reports and ensure that it was in line with the priorities of the Council and central to its core values.

Councillor Enright did not consider this would place an unduly onerous burden on Officers and would ensure that the business of the Council reflected the key aims and objectives of the Authority.

In accordance with paragraph 11(e) of the Council Procedure Rules, The Chairman indicated that she considered the subject matter of the foregoing motion to fall within the remit of the Economic and Social and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

Accordingly, it was:

RESOLVED: that the motion having been duly proposed and seconded shall stand referred without discussion to the Economic and Social and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committees.