

10. NOTICE OF MOTION - DEALING WITH VERMIN AND STATUTORY NUISANCE - SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR WILLIE BOYLE

Prior to moving his motion Councillor Boyle advised that he had agreed a composite motion with Councillor Pearson in the following terms :-

“Rats are naturally present in the environment we are told.

The responsibility for management and control of rats lies with the land and property owners where the rats are present we are told.

Feeding birds (or hedgehogs, etc.) in itself is not an offence we are told.

However, if feeding is excessive, or leads to accumulations of food waste, or a significant build-up of bird droppings, it comes under Section 79 section 1(e) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

Any accumulation or deposit which is prejudicial to health or a nuisance,”

Local Authorities are responsible for enforcement of this act.

Where there are a significant number of complaints received then it is reasonably safe to assume that a nuisance is occurring.

Council does however agree for a report to be brought to Public & Community Safety PDSP. The report to inform the panel about the relevant law, Council policy, procedures and charges and include information on complaints, investigations and enforcement action over the last 5 years to enable members to assess matters including a new review of policy.”

- Moved by Councillor Boyle and seconded by Councillor Pearson

Decision

To unanimously agree the terms of the composite motion.