

NOTICE OF MOTION**GREEN GROUP****BADGER CULL**

“This council notes that the widespread public and scientific concern at the government’s badger culling pilots, and the government’s stated intention to roll out badger culling more widely across the UK including East Sussex.

However the government appointed Independent Scientific Group's ten year randomised badger culling trial concluded that “badger culling can make no meaningful contribution to cattle tuberculosis control in Britain.”

The RSPCA have also said that “as culling cannot be selective many perfectly healthy badgers will be slaughtered as ‘collateral damage’ in fact, as many as 6 out of 7 badgers killed could be [bovine Tuberculosis] free.”

Many experts have pointed out that better on-farm welfare, tighter bio security and stricter cattle movement controls are key to combating the disease.

Vaccination can also be used to protect badgers from catching this disease and to prevent them from passing it back to cows, as is now the case in Wales. Cattle vaccination also has a role to play long term, once the current regulatory hurdles are overcome.

This council objects to the badger culling pilots and any future expansion to other parts of the country, including East Sussex.

This council therefore:

- a) Asks that the Chief Executive of our council writes to the Secretary of State informing them of council’s objections.
- b) Requests a report to Policy & Resources Committee setting out how the council will work with tenant farmers to prevent culling from taking place on council-owned land.
- c) Joins the RSPCA in asking the city’s MPs to support Early Day Motion 661, calling for any roll out of the cull to be subject to a vote in Parliament.”

Proposed by: Cllr Wakefield

Seconded by: Cllr Phillips

Supported by: Cllrs Bowden, Buckley, Davey, Deane, Duncan, Hawtree, Jarrett, Jones, Kennedy, A Kitcat, J Kitcat, Littman, Mac Cafferty, Powell, Randall Rufus, Shanks, Sykes and West.