

Subject:	Items referred from the Council meeting held on the 24 October 2019		
Date of Meeting:	5 December 2019		
Report of:	Executive Lead Officer for Strategy, Governance & Law		
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Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 To receive the following Notice of Motion which was debated at and referred from the full Council meeting held on the 24 October 2019.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Committee responds to the motion either by noting it or where it is considered more appropriate, calls for an officer report on the matter as requested, which may give consideration to a range of options.

3. CONTEXT / BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 To receive the following extract from the minutes of the full council meeting held on the 24 October 2019 setting out the motion and recommendation for the committee to consider as detailed below:

(1) Fur Free City

This Council resolves to request the Policy & Resources Committee:

- To consider the introduction of a policy to prohibit the sale of any product wholly or partially made with real animal fur on Council owned land and at Council run or Council leased markets. This ban to cover such items as fur coats, vintage fur, fur shawls, garments with fur trim, fur pompom hats, and fur accessories and trinkets.
- To explore the viability of extending said policy to the sale of leather.
- To support the Fur Free Markets campaign of the animal welfare charity, Respect for Animals, the UK's leading anti-fur organisation, by:
 - a) Becoming a signatory to the initiative; and
 - b) Seeking the advice and assistance of the charity in the enforcement of this ban.

- 3.2 The extract from the full Council meeting is detailed below:

COUNCIL

4.30pm 24 OCTOBER 2019

HOVE TOWN HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBER

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Phillips (Chair), Robins (Deputy Chair), Simson, Allcock, Bagaeen, Barnett, Bell, Brennan, Brown, Childs, Clare, Davis, Deane, Druitt, Ebel, Evans, Fishleigh, Fowler, Gibson, Grimshaw, Hamilton, Heley, Hill, Hills, Hugh-Jones, Janio, Knight, Lewry, Lloyd, Mac Cafferty, Mears, McNair, Miller, Moonan, Nemeth, Nield, O'Quinn, Osborne, Peltzer Dunn, Pissaridou, Platts, Powell, Rainey, Shanks, C Theobald, West, Wilkinson and Williams.

PART ONE

45. NOTICES OF MOTION

(1) FUR FREE CITY

- 45.1 The Notice of Motion as listed in the agenda was proposed by Councillor Fowler on behalf of the Labour Group. Councillor Fowler noted that fur farming had been banned by the Parliament Act 2000 and yet the fashion continued as the practice was allowed to operate in other countries and imports of goods meant it was difficult for consumers to differentiate between real and fake fur products. She was aware that many cities around the world had taken action to ban fur and councils has amended street trading licences to prevent the sale of fur. She hoped that councillors would support the motion and enable the council to take a lead on this issue and hopefully achieve a total ban.
- 45.2 The Mayor noted that it was Councillor Fowler's maiden speech and congratulated her on behalf of the council.
- 45.3 Councillor Evans formally seconded the motion and stated that the use of fur had become an important consideration for people and they wanted clearer labelling and for retailers to stop miss-selling goods. It was an important issue and Brighton and Hove should be a fur free city.
- 45.4 Councillor O'Quinn supported the motion and noted that the EU had the largest fur farms producing 50% of the global trade. She believed that fur looked better on live animals and hoped that the motion would be supported.
- 45.5 Councillor Druitt welcomed the motion and questioned why the importing of fur was still permitted as it made no sense. He believed it was important for the council to support the principle and ensure that it controlled what was available on its own land and in its properties and any change of policy to enable that should be supported.
- 45.6 Councillor Miller stated that he supported the intention to protect animals but questioned how the objective of the motion could be achieved and enforced. It would be difficult to take action against local businesses and to ensure that products were not being mislabelled.

45.7 Councillor Fowler thanked everyone for their comments and the support for the aims of the motion and hoped that animal welfare standards could be improved by taking action and making a positive stand against this trade.

45.8 The Mayor then put the following motion to the vote:

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45.9 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been carried unanimously.

