

ENVIRONMENT CABINET MEMBER MEETING

Agenda Item 60(i)

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Cityparks Downland Management - Call-In of 24 September Environment CMM Decision		
Date of Meeting:	5 November 2009		
Report of:	Director of Strategy and Governance		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Tom Hook	Tel: 29-1110
	E-mail:	Tom.hook@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Key Decision:	No		
Wards Affected:	East Brighton; Hangleton & Knoll; Hollingdean & Stanmer; Moulsecomb & Bevendean, North Portslade; Patcham; Rottingdean Coastal; Withdean and Woodingdean		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report relates to the call-in meeting of the 6 October Environment and Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee, convened to consider the call-in request of two decisions, one of which was the CMM decision in relation to Downland Management.
- 1.2 ECSOSC resolved to call in the CMM decision. This report sets out the extract from the draft minutes of 6 October ECSOSC at Appendix A and includes all the papers made available at that meeting.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Member, in accordance with Part 6, paragraph 16.10 of the Council's constitution and having regard to the resolution of ECSOSC set out below, consider whether or not to amend the decision of the 24 September, before reaching a final decision on Downland Management.
- 2.2 **Resolution of the Environment and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

That the Downland Management decision be referred back to CMM for reconsideration due to:

- The lack of consultation with local conversation and wildlife groups
- The lack of information in the CMM report relating to cutting and composting of sites not being grazed
- Lack of analysis evident in the CMM report of the impact of the downland mowing policy on a site by site basis

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Details of the 24 September Environment CMM decision on Downland Management, the subsequent request by Councillor Mitchell plus papers considered by 6 October Environment and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee in determining the call-in request, are attached at Appendices below.
- 3.2 An extract from the draft minute of 6 October Environment and Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting is also included as Appendix A.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 None has been undertaken in relation to this report

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 None in relation to this report; but members should be aware of the implications to the 24 September CMM report and the 6 October ECSOSC Commission report (both re-printed in the papers accompanying this report).

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

- 6.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission evaluated whether or not to send the original decision back to Cabinet for reconsideration.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Recommendations are based on the resolution 6 October ECSOSC.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices

1. Appendix A: Extract from draft minutes of 6 October ECSOSC meeting
2. Appendix B: Report and the following Appendices submitted under Item 24 to 6 October ECSOSC
 - (i) The request for Call-In;
 - (ii) Letter from wildlife groups and officer briefing considered at 22 June Environment and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee (ECSOSC) meeting;
 - (iii) Officer briefing considered at 22 June Environment and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee (ECSOSC) meeting;
 - (iv) Extract from minutes of 22 June ECSOSC meeting;
 - (v) Letter from ECSOSC Chairman Councillor Warren Morgan and further comments from Councillor Sven Rufus to 30 July Environment CMM meeting;
 - (vi) Extract from minutes of 30 July CMM meeting;
 - (vii) Report from the Director of Environment which was agreed at the 24 September Environment CMM meeting;
 - (viii) Appendix to the 24 September CMM report;
 - (ix) Extract from the draft minutes from the 24 September Environment CMM meeting;
 - (x) Official record of the Environment CMM decision on this matter;
 - (xi) Further information on this issue supplied by the Director of Environment

Documents in Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None

