

**Motion to** Council  
16 March 2021  
**Subject** Promoting pollinators in the city  
**Proposer** Councillor Packer  
**Seconded** Councillor Maguire

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Item  
**10(a)**

It is well documented that bees and other pollinators have been in serious decline for many years. This is a loud and clear message that they need help and quickly otherwise all of us, plants, pollinators and people, face serious problems. Pollinators are central to Norfolk's fruit farms, they serve crops including oilseed rape, clovers and other nitrogen fixing plants. They are important for livestock grazing and wild flowers. Pollinators add to the diversity of plant species, habitats and wildlife in Norwich as well as its natural beauty. This makes Norwich a better place to live, to enjoy and to visit. Losing our pollinators would be a major ecological and economic disaster.

The council already undertakes important actions to help pollinators however, we should always aspire to do more. In addition to the actions within the biodiversity motion passed by Norwich City Council in September 2019:

Council **RESOLVES** to:

- 1) continue to raise the awareness of pollinators' needs in local communities by:
  - a) continuing to promote what action can be undertaken both on an individual basis and by community groups to help pollinators;
  - b) continuing to ensure the wellbeing of pollinators is a principal consideration in land management e.g. through grass-cutting and pollinator-friendly planting regimes;
  - c) using planning powers to protect pollinator habitats where possible;
  - d) continuing work with the Pesticide Action Network (PAN) to lead to an end in use of pesticides in Norwich;
  - e) planting pollinator-friendly plants and trees, such as those identified in the Royal Horticultural Society's Perfect for Pollinators scheme;
- 2) ask cabinet, through its advisory climate and environment emergency executive panel, to develop a pollinator action plan;
- 3) continue to plant pollinator-friendly plants as part of amenity planting in parks, gardens and green spaces;

- 4) ask the county council to encourage schools to help children engage with this agenda;
- 5) seeking to influence other partners, including social housing, public health bodies, district and county councils to support our efforts;
- 6) call on the county council to plant more pollinators when maintaining the city's highways; and
- 7) ask the leader of the council to write to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs calling on the Government to:
  - a) reverse its decision in January of 2021 authorising the use of highly damaging neonicotinoid thiamethoxam
  - b) introduce a ban to include other neonics and systemic pesticides based on results from the funding of proper research into the hazards of neonicotinoids and glyphosate on human health and the environment
  - c) focus support for farmers to adopt non-chemical alternatives

**Motion to** Council  
16 March 2021  
**Subject** Advertising  
**Proposer** Councillor Schmierer  
**Seconded** Councillor Osborn

Item  
**10(b)**

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Paid promotion of activities or products that are potentially harmful to mental or physical health or the environment, such as junk food, gambling, alcohol or the most polluting forms of transport, are very common on our television screens, radios, social media feeds and across a variety of out of home advertising media.

There is a strong precedent for precluding such forms of advertising. Most forms of tobacco advertising and sponsorship were banned from 2003 (e.g. on billboards and in printed publications): tobacco sponsorship of international sport was banned from 2005.

Other councils, including Bristol, have developed more ethical advertising policies.

This council **RESOLVES** to:

- 1) ask cabinet to devise an advertising strategy for Norwich City Council which recognises the harmful effects that junk food, environmentally polluting products and activities, payday lenders, gambling and alcohol can have on local residents. This policy would then be used to ascertain which companies and products the council wishes to associate itself with and support, including local businesses, and ban harmful products, companies or services from being advertised in council owned premises, e.g. car parks, in our communications, or from sponsoring council organised events.
- 2) update the council's planning policy to ensure that new advertising hoardings cannot be installed within the proximity of schools.
- 3) Ask cabinet to work with partners to phase out all forms of advertising, especially via outdoor media across the city, that are potentially harmful to our communities, such as gambling, alcohol, junk food and environmentally damaging products.
- 4) Write to the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, asking for a ban on such forms of unethical advertising nationally and asking to follow the lead of Italy, which in 2018 introduced a 'Dignity Decree' that banned all advertisements for gambling services across all channels in the country, meaning gambling advertisements were no longer allowed on television, radio, print media, the internet, or any other public forum in Italy.



**Motion to** Council  
16 March 2021  
**Subject** Right to food  
**Proposer** Councillor Huntley  
**Seconded** Councillor Davis

Item  
**10(c)**

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The current National Food Strategy (NFS) review, the first since that commissioned by the post-war Labour government, represents a rare opportunity to influence the approach, practices, and direction of future food planning. Alongside addressing acute food poverty, including child hunger, this strategic review must call for a fundamental 'right to food', to be enshrined in law, thereby ensuring that government obligations on food poverty are clear and government bodies can be held to account for violations of this right, as argued for by the Right to Food campaign in order to address the 11 million U.K. residents experiencing food poverty.

The recommendations outlined in Part 1 of the NFS report include:

- 1) expanding the eligibility for the Free School Meal scheme to include every child (up to the age of 16) from a household where the parent or guardian is in receipt of Universal Credit or equivalent benefits
- 2) extending the Holiday Activity and Food programme to all areas of England, so that summer holiday support is available to all children in receipt of free school meals
- 3) increasing the value of the Healthy Start vouchers to £4.25 per week, and expand the scheme to every pregnant woman and to all households with children under four where a parent or guardian is in receipt of Universal Credit or equivalent benefits
- 4) the support of supermarkets and convenience stores (with the support from the Association of Convenience Stores) in supplementing these vouchers with additional free fruit and vegetables

This council **RESOLVES** to:

- 1) Call on the Chair of the National Food Strategy, Henry Dimbleby, to recommend in addition:
  - a) for a 'right to food' to be established in law, thereby ensuring a recognisable governmental responsibility for this provision.
  - b) that accessibility to the Free School Meal scheme is given equal importance as eligibility (so that digital poverty doesn't precipitate food poverty)
  - c) that accessibility to the Holiday Activity and Food programme is given equal importance as eligibility (so that digital poverty doesn't preclude participation and precipitate food poverty)
  - d) raising the value of the Healthy Start vouchers to £5.00.
  - e) that all food for sale in the U.K. on reaching its 'best before date' is automatically donated for distribution through delivery networks such as foodbanks.

- f) that all local schemes encouraging environmentally sustainable food production, including communal allotments or appropriate foods grown in communal areas, be eligible to funding drawn from tariffs imposed upon products not meeting the standards of certification schemes covering animal welfare, environmental and climate protections as outlined in recommendation 5.
- 2) Ask the Lord Mayor to write to thank those local supermarkets and convenience stores actively donating food for distribution through local delivery networks such as foodbanks to Norwich residents.
- 3) Ask the Leader of the council to write to the relevant Secretary of State urging the National Food Strategy recommendations

**Motion to** Council  
16 March 2021  
**Subject** Retrofitting  
**Proposer** Councillor Osborn  
**Seconder** Councillor Neale

Item  
**10(d)**

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Many homes in Norwich were built before the introduction of energy performance or buildings regulations and, sadly, thousands of excess winter deaths are likely to be caused by poorly heated homes each year in the UK. Emissions from residential buildings form the largest share of Norwich's total scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions.

This council **RESOLVES** to ask cabinet to:

- 1) develop a retrofitting strategy for council-owned housing, showing how it will become carbon neutral by 2030, working with partners where appropriate
- 2) identify and work with a wide range of partners to investigate opportunities for retrofitting to enable projects across the city retrofitting homes in the social housing, privately rented and owner-occupied sectors
- 3) recognise the potential for high-value jobs in retrofitting as part of the city's Covid-19 recovery plan
- 4) actively identify appropriate potential sources of funding to take this work forward.

**Motion to** Council  
16 March 2021  
**Subject** Stand up for carers  
**Proposer** Councillor Wright  
**Seconder** Councillor Ackroyd

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Item  
**10(e)**

Carers – paid and unpaid, young and old – do a remarkable and important job. They are an integral part of our community. They deserve our support, but are far too often forgotten and ignored.

Carers in Norwich face big challenges every single day; challenges that have been made even harder by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Over 2,700 full-time unpaid carers in Norwich are entitled to Carer's Allowance.

At just £67.25, rising 35p in April, Carer's Allowance is the lowest benefit of its kind.

Many carers are unaware of their entitlement to financial support, a carer's assessment or break, and the support services available.

#### Council **RESOLVES**

- 1) To affirm that we must continue to stand up for carers, do more to support them, and build a more caring society as we emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 2) To ask the scrutiny committee to consider adding an item to its work programme on the availability of support for carers, including a review of existing work undertaken by this council
- 3) To promote Young Carers Action Day as widely as possible on an annual basis, particularly to young carers and their families;
- 4) To ask group leaders to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, urging them to raise Carer's Allowance by £20 a week immediately, in line with the increase in Universal Credit, and copy in our local MP(s), asking for their support.



