

Council: Tuesday 19 October 2021

**Amendment to Administration Motion: Cllr Claire Farrier
Protecting Animals from the Effects of Fireworks**

Delete all and replace with (additions in bold, no deletions):

Council notes that:

1. Fireworks are used lawfully by residents throughout the year to mark various celebrations
2. The unpredictable, loud, and high-intensity noises that many fireworks make can cause fear and distress in pets, livestock, and wildlife. In the worst cases, animals require behavioural therapies and drug treatments for their fear responses, and they may never recover fully
3. The RSPCA expects an 18% rise in the number of residential garden firework displays in England and Wales in 2021, compared to 2019
4. Animal welfare is a widely held concern for residents in Barnet and across the country
5. Residents have a statutory duty under the Animal Welfare Act 2006 to protect from suffering those animals for which they are responsible.

6. Barnet Council's Licensing Committee on 10 February 2021 agreed to support the proposed RSPCA recommendations:

- **To require all public firework displays within the local authority boundaries to be advertised in advance of the event, allowing residents to take precautions for their animals and vulnerable people**
- **To actively promote a public awareness campaign about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people – including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks**
- **To write to the UK Government urging them to introduce legislation to limit the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90dB for those sold to the public for private displays**
- **To encourage local suppliers of fireworks to stock 'quieter' fireworks for public display.**

Council believes that:

1. Residents should give their neighbours reasonable advance notice if they are

planning to host a private firework display, so that arrangements can be made regarding the wellbeing of pets and livestock

2. The Council should do more to promote awareness of the impacts that fireworks can have on pets, livestock, and wildlife.

As per the Licensing Committee decision, Council resolves to:

1. Require where possible that all public firework displays within the local authority boundaries to be advertised in advance of the event, enabling residents to take precautions for their pets

2. Actively promote a public awareness campaign about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks.