



Environment and Climate Change Committee

9th June 2022

Title	Members' Items Councillor Simon Radford REVERSING THE DECLINE IN SWIFTS
Report of	Head of Governance
Wards	All Wards
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	None
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Summary

A Member's Item has been received for the Environment and Climate Change Committee. The Committee is requested to consider the item and provide instructions.

Officer's Recommendation

That the Environment and Climate Change Committee's instructions in relation to the Member's Item is requested.

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 Members of the Committee have requested that the item tabled below is submitted to the Environment and Climate Change Committee for consideration and determination. The Environment and Climate Change Committee is requested to provide instructions to Officers of the Council as recommended.

Cllr Simon Radford	<p>Swifts have declined all across the UK and are now on the Red list of Birds of Conservation Concern. This includes Barnet where fewer and fewer have been spotted arriving back in the spring after spending the winter in Africa.</p> <p>The RSPB have stated that a key reason for the decline in the number of swifts is a lack of safe places to nest. This is a result of the important nooks and crannies that have been lost in modern buildings or as buildings are refurbished or demolished.</p> <p>I therefore ask that action to help reverse the decline in swifts should form part of the council's new biodiversity strategy as this is developed. In particular, this could include installing swift boxes on council buildings and using the planning process to require developers to include swift nesting bricks in planning proposals for new developments.</p>
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2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 No recommendations have been made. The Committee is therefore requested to give consideration and provide instruction.

2.2 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

N/A

3. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 3.1 Post decision implementation will depend on the decision taken by the Committee.

4. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

4.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 4.1.1 As and when issues raised through a Member's Item are progressed, they will need to be evaluated against the Corporate Plan and other relevant policies.

4.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

4.2.1 None in the context of this report.

4.3 Legal and Constitutional References

4.3.1 A Member (including Members appointed as substitutes by Council) will be permitted to have one matter only (with no sub-items) on the agenda for a meeting of a committee or Sub-Committee on which s/he serves. The matter must be relevant to the terms of reference of the committee.

4.3.2 The referral of a motion from Full Council to a committee will not count as a Member's Item for the purposes of this rule.

5. Social Value

5.1 Risk Management

5.1.1 None in the context of this report.

5.2 Equalities and Diversity

5.2.1 Members' Items allow Members of a Committee to bring a wide range of issues to the attention of a Committee in accordance with the Council's Constitution. All of these issues must be considered for their equality and diversity implications.

5.3 Consultation and Engagement

5.3.1 None in the context of this report.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

6.1 None in the context of this report.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.