

## **Guiding principles for developing recommendations for the Pesticides scrutiny report.**

We are approaching the time when the panel needs to make its recommendations and this paper is produced to achieve some general agreement about how we can approach this.

These guiding principles are over and above the Portsmouth City Council's usual approach to producing scrutiny reports including of course the need to base the recommendations on evidence heard by the panel.

Specifically, for this report it is suggested that the panel's recommendations.

1. Recognise the enormous progress made across the three departments in recent years.
2. Focus on what has worked for the city so far,
3. Distinguish the use pesticides in different situations including perhaps continuing use for knotweed and some sports facilities such as golf courses and bowling greens.
4. Avoid recommendations that are likely to incur significant increases in future council budgets. Where increases are anticipated keep them to the minimum.
5. Build on the TECS scrutiny of Biodiversity including their recommendations about leadership, accountability and reporting.
6. Bring together Biodiversity and the use of pesticides under the same leadership/strategy and actions (since they are inextricably linked)
7. Include targets for further reductions in the use of pesticides where possible.
8. Where we do not know then include recommendations for further work if necessary
9. Any other ideas from the panel?

Councillor Judith Smyth  
Chair of the panel.