



**Title of meeting:** Cabinet

**Date of meeting:** 9 January 2024

**Subject:** Response to Traffic, Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel (Pesticides)

**Report by:** Director of Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services  
Director of Public Health  
Director of Housing, Neighbourhood & Building Services  
Director of Regeneration  
Director of Corporate Services

**Wards affected:** All

**Key decision:** No

**Full Council decision:** No

---

## 1. Purpose of report

The purpose of the report is to set out the response of officers to the Traffic, Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel's recommendations arising from a review into reducing the use of pesticides on council land.

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That the Panel is thanked for its work in undertaking the review and the resulting report, which further supports the Council's policy to continue to work towards minimising pesticide use on council owned land; and
- 2.2. That Cabinet notes the recommendations as set out in Appendix B to this report, together with the officer responses to the recommendations.

## 3. Background

- 3.1. The Traffic, Environment and Community Safety (TECS) Scrutiny Panel have reviewed opportunities for reducing the use of pesticides on council land.
- 3.2. The report builds on the previous TECS Scrutiny Panel report on biodiversity which was presented to Cabinet on 26 July 2022.
- 3.3. In July 2022, Full Council agreed, via Cabinet, to utilise TECS Scrutiny Panel as a means to investigate reducing the use of pesticides on council land.

3.4. The Panel's review was undertaken over a course of meetings between 13 March 2023 and 22 September 2023.

3.5. The review included receiving evidence from:

- 3.5.1. Phil Bentley, Head of Estates Services (PCC)
- 3.5.2. Adrian Rozier, Parks Development Manager (PCC)
- 3.5.3. Martin Lavers, Assistant Director of Regeneration (PCC)
- 3.5.4. Eric Brangier, Managing Director, Ensign
- 3.5.5. Richard Stocks, Highways PFI Contract Manager (PCC)
- 3.5.6. Councillor Darren Sanders, Cabinet Member for Housing and Tackling Homelessness (PCC)
- 3.5.7. Councillor Steve Pitt, Leader and Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Economic Development (PCC)
- 3.5.8. Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson, Cabinet Member for Transport (PCC)
- 3.5.9. Councillor Kimberly Barrett, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Greening the City (PCC)
- 3.5.10. Charlotte Smith, Assistant Director, Corporate Services

3.6. By way of written evidence:

- 3.6.1. Questionnaires were sent to 42 landowners in the city, including 36 housing associations, Gunwharf Quays, Portsmouth Football Club, Portsmouth Naval Base Property Trust, University of Portsmouth and Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust.
- 3.6.2. Questionnaires were also sent to 22 local organisations, including Portsmouth Friends of The Earth, Baffins Pond Association, Milton Neighbourhood Forum and Portsmouth and Southsea Tree Wardens.

3.7. The Scrutiny Panel's review document can be found in full at Appendix A.

#### **4. Reasons for recommendations**

4.1. The scrutiny panel made 29 recommendations in total. The recommendations, together with officer responses, can be found at Appendix B.

#### **5. Integrated impact assessment**

5.1. An IIA will be produced for each specific scheme or policy change arising from the recommendations made, at such time as they are planned for implementation.

#### **6. Legal implications**

6.1. There are no legal implications arising directly from the specific recommendations and officer responses set out in the report, but legal support can be provided as may be necessary in connection with the implementation of recommended initiatives.



**7. Director of Finance's comments**

7.1. Implementation of the various initiatives outlined in the report will be subject to available budget provision.

Signed by:  
**Stephen Baily**  
**Director of Culture, Leisure and Regulatory Services**

.....

Signed by:  
**Helen Atkinson**  
**Director of Public Health**

.....

Signed by:  
**James Hill**  
**Director of Housing, Neighbourhoods and Building Services**

.....

Signed by:  
**Kerri Farnsworth**  
**Interim Director of Regeneration**

.....

Signed by:  
**Natasha Edmunds**  
**Director of Corporate Services**



**Appendices:**

Appendix A: Traffic, Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel review into reducing the use of pesticides on council land.

Appendix B: Scrutiny Panel's recommendations and officer responses.

**Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972**

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by ..... on .....

.....  
Signed by:  
**Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Economic Development**

.....  
Signed by:  
**Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care**

.....  
Signed by:  
**Cabinet Member for Housing and Tackling Homelessness**

.....  
Signed by:  
**Cabinet Member for Resources**