

# Motions

Members have given notice that they intend to move the following motions in accordance with paragraph 16.8.2 of the Constitution:

The Courts have made it clear that the Public Sector Equality Duty applies to the Council when it is considering these motions, even if they are motions without legal effect. There is not a general requirement for an equality impact assessment but regard should be had to the equality duty when drafting and considering motions.

The equality duty requires Council to have due regard to the need to:

- (a) Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other behaviour prohibited by the Act. In summary, the Act makes it unlawful to discriminate etc on the grounds of a protected characteristic.
- (b) Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- (c) Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.

The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, race, religion or belief, gender, and sexual orientation. The Act states that 'marriage and civil partnership' is not a relevant protected characteristic for (b) or (c) although it is relevant for (a).

## 1 Environment Improvements

Moved by Councillor Mitchell and seconded by Councillor Platt:

'This Council recognises the stance that the Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste has taken in improving the use of renewable energy across the County Council estate and ensuring well maintained country parks which have won national recognition and help improve the health and wellbeing of those that use them. The new role of clean air champion and developing the Green Infrastructure initiative which will achieve long lasting environmental improvements across Essex are also positive moves.

The Administration however is mindful that more must be done to improve air quality and protecting natural resources to help improve the environment for future generations.

Therefore this Council supports and endorses the Administration's work so far and supports the Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste in setting up a cross party group to investigate what further actions this Council can undertake across all its work with District/Borough/City Councils to reduce carbon emissions and promote the Green Infrastructure initiative to help improve the lives of all citizens in Essex.'

## **2     Hunting**

Moved by Councillor Scordis and seconded by Councillor Davies:

‘This Council notes that the hunting of wild animals with dogs is illegal under the terms of the Hunting Act 2004, except where an exemption applies.

This Council therefore calls upon the Cabinet not to allow any future trail hunting and exercising of packs of Fox hounds on Essex County Council land.’