Council 11 July, 2019

Clean Up Bath and North East Somerset

Labour Group to move:

Council notes that:

1   Bath Live and the Bath Chronicle have launched a campaign to Clean Up Bath.

2   The actions of the Council's contractors, 3GS, in fining a resident £150 for feeding pigeons have resulted in national interest in the way in which this Council addresses the problem of litter.

3   There is widespread concern about litter among communities not only in Bath but also in North East Somerset and that residents would like to see action taken.

This Council believes that:

4   The Clean Up Bath campaign is to be welcomed. Responsibility for keeping our streets, playgrounds and parks clean rests with us all. However, this Council must accept that it has a lead role in addressing littering.

5   Any action taken to tackle littering must be proportionate.

Council resolves therefore:

6   To ask the Climate Change and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny to undertake a full review into littering in Bath and North East Somerset This review should assess the scale of the problem and identify a range of measures that could help to eliminate litter from our area including:

   a)   Working with businesses to ensure that they are not encouraging the feeding of gulls;
   b)   Ensuring our parks are properly maintained with sufficient bins. During summer months, when bins are overflowing, providing temporary wheelie bins;
   c)   Promoting the Green Flag award which sets the benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces;
   d)   Promoting the formation of Friends of Parks to help improve public opens spaces in the context of diminishing Council resources;
   e)   Investigating the potential for a competition to identify the cleanest street, park and playground in Bath and North East Somerset; and
   f)   Reviewing the working of 3GS to ensure that it is meeting the requirements of its contract with Bath and North East Somerset Council and that its enforcement action is proportionate.