

## REPORT OF COMMUNITY, PARTNERSHIPS AND WELLBEING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL

(Meeting held on 17 January 2023)

### 1. COUNCIL MOTION – PETS AS PRIZES (MINUTE NO 20)

At its meeting on 17 January 2023, the Community, Partnerships and Wellbeing Overview & Scrutiny Panel considered the following motion from Council, submitted by Cllr Tipp:

*“This Council:-*

- Is concerned about the number of cases reported to the RSPCA each year, regarding pets being given as prizes via fairgrounds, social media and other channels in England - and notes the issue predominantly concerns goldfish.*
- Is concerned for the welfare of those animals that are being given as prizes.*
- Recognises that many cases of pets being given as prizes may go unreported each year.*
- Supports a move to ban the giving of live animals as prizes, in any form, on New Forest District Council land. The Council agrees to:*
- Ban outright the giving of live animals as prizes, in any form, on New Forest District Council land.*
- Write to the UK Government, urging an outright ban on the giving of live animals as prizes on both public and private land.”*

The Panel noted that the giving of animals as prizes could not be controlled by the Council under the animal welfare licensing regime. However, the Council could consider requiring officers to include conditions precluding the giving of pets as prizes in agreements prior to giving consent to use of its land.

In addition, it was suggested that the Council could write to town and parish councils requesting that they put similar restrictions on any event organisers using their land.

Following advice from officers, the Panel recommends the following measures outlined in response to the motion.

#### **RECOMMENDED:**

- (a) That the Council's Estates and Open Spaces Service be asked to include conditions precluding the giving of pets as prizes in agreements prior to giving consent to use of its land.***
- (b) That a letter be sent to all Parish and Town Councils in the New Forest district, urging them to adopt the same approach in imposing conditions on use of their land precluding the giving of pets as prizes.***
- (c) That a letter be sent on behalf of the Council to the Government urging an outright ban on the giving of live animals as prizes on both public and private land.***

**CLLR K CRAZE  
CHAIRMAN**