

Bolsover District Council

**Meeting of the Climate Change & Communities Scrutiny Committee 26th March
2023**

**Review of Council Policy on Sky Lanterns and Helium Balloons – Post-
Scrutiny Monitoring (Final Report)**

Report of the Chair of Climate Change & Communities Scrutiny Committee

Classification	This report is Public
Contact Officer	Thomas Dunne-Wragg, Scrutiny Officer

PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF REPORT

- To present the final Post-Scrutiny Monitoring Report on the recent Review of Council Policy on Sky Lanterns and Helium Balloons.

REPORT DETAILS

1. Background

- 1.1 During the 2020-21 municipal year, Members of the Healthy, Safe, Clean & Green Communities Scrutiny Committee were made aware of a number of resident concerns in relation to the impact of sky lantern and balloon use, both at specified celebrations such as birthdays/family and community events; Bonfire night and New Year's Eve.
- 1.2 Following referrals from the Customer Standards & Complaints Officer and the Leader of the Council, Members chose to investigate further to establish what the Council could do to mitigate the impacts at a local level.
- 1.3 While Members of the new Climate Change & Communities Scrutiny could not take this forward during 2021/22 due to workloads, there was a commitment to finish this piece of work and ensure the Council had adequate local policies in place.

2. Details of Proposal or Information

- 2.1 The Committee put together five recommendations which aimed to assist the Council in limiting the impact of local use of sky lanterns and helium balloons.
- 2.2 This report acknowledges progress by Officers implementing the recommendations.

- 2.3 To date 1 out of 5 recommendations has been achieved, 1 achieved behind target, 2 remain overdue and 1 has been extended to allow for action at the next review of tenancy agreements. It is recommended that a further update be brought to committee to advise of completion of the recommendations.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 Members are required to make their report and findings public, in accordance with Part 4.5.17(4) of the Constitution.
- 3.2 Committee is required to monitor implementation of their recommendations in accordance with Part 3.6(1) of the Constitution.
- 3.3 Members must note Executive's response to the review recommendations and agree to review progress on the approved recommendations. A progress report is submitted at six and twelve months' intervals, with any exceptions to expected delivery highlighted.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 There are no alternative options. Members are required to note the service's response to progress against the review recommendations.
- 4.2 Committee is required to monitor implementation of their recommendations in accordance with Part 3.6(1) of the Constitution and as such the report cannot be rejected.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. That Scrutiny Members note the progress against the review recommendations.
2. That Scrutiny Members acknowledge any exceptions to delivery and clarify the additional action required by the service.
3. That Scrutiny Members make its report and findings public, in accordance with Part 4.5.17(4) of the Council's Constitution.
4. That a further update be brought back to Members during 2024/25 municipal year to update them on implementation of the recommendations.

IMPLICATIONS:

Finance and Risk: Yes No

Details:

None from this report. Suggested action for the Council can be contained within existing budgets.

On behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes No

Details:

In carrying out scrutiny reviews the Council is exercising its scrutiny powers as laid out in Part 1A, s9F(2) of the Local Government Act 2000.

On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Environment:

Please identify (if applicable) how this proposal/report will help the Authority meet its carbon neutral target or enhance the environment.

Details: The creation of a local Charter acts as a statement of the Council's stance in wishing to decrease the environmental impact from sky lanterns and helium balloons on Council land and property.

Staffing: Yes No

Details:

There are no staffing implications from this report.

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

<p>Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:</p> <p>Revenue - £75,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £150,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i></p>	No
<p>Is the decision subject to Call-In? <i>(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</i></p>	No
<p>District Wards Significantly Affected</p>	None
<p>Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Executive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SLT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Details: Relevant Service Managers and Portfolio Holder engaged during the review process.</p>

Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy and Environment.

Ambition: Environment

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
App1.	PSM Council Policy on Sky Lanterns and Helium Balloons – Original Recommendations from Review and Executive’s Response
App2.	PSM Council Policy on Sky Lanterns and Helium Balloons – Interim Response to Scrutiny Committee on implementation following scrutiny review

Background Papers

(These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Executive you must provide copies of the background papers).

Please contact Scrutiny & Elections Officer where further information is required.