

Recommendation to Cabinet

Place and Resources Overview Committee – 25
February 2021

Options for the control of disposable barbeques and other fire related activities

For Decision

Portfolio Holder: Cllr R Bryan, Highways, Travel and Environment

Local Councillor(s): All

Executive Director: John Sellgren, Executive Director, Place

Report Status: Public

Recommendation:

- (a) To adopt a two-step approach to the control of disposable barbeques and other fire related activities firstly focussing on increasing public awareness about the risks and the wider impacts through campaigns, policies and schemes, then if necessary, introducing legislation which will result in penalties for those in contravention.
- (b) To achieve this Cabinet are recommended to approve the following options:
 - (1) Not to pursue designating areas or Dorset Council areas with a PSPO relating to BBQ's and fire related activities this year but evaluate 2022 (Option 1)
 - (2) Not to pursue having a specific byelaw at this current time (Option 2)
 - (3) The Sky Lantern and Balloon Policy and the new BBQ and campfire/Wildfire Policy is adopted by Dorset Council (Option 3)
 - (4) Moors Valley to investigate the gas/electric communal style BBQ option with Forestry England later (Option 4)
 - (5) Officers to investigate partnership funding options to support having a new Firewise voluntary warden scheme delivered through the Dorset Firewise project (Option 5)

- (6) The campaign and communication work are supported and developed and taken forward for 2021 season in line with any recommendations from this report. (Option 6)
- (7) Dorset council initiate a coordinated approach to the banning of disposable BBQs in agreed high risk area's locations. This work should link with Option 3, 5 and 6 (Option 7).

Reason for Recommendation:

This two-step approach considers the cost, the length of time it takes to introduce new legislation and difficulties in enforcement as well as the effectiveness of various control methods. The recommended approach aims to balance the various options presented to Cabinet.

Appendices

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Appendices within the Place and Resources Overview Committee report:

1. Appendix 1 – The Sky Lantern and Balloon release DC Policy
2. Appendix 2 - The BBQ and Campfire/Wildfire DC Policy
3. Appendix 3 – Dorset Firewise volunteer warden scheme proposal
4. Appendix 4 – The Dorset 2020 BBQ campaign

[Minutes of Place and Resources Overview Committee – 25 February 2021.](#)