

Request to add an item to a Policy Review and Development Panel, or King's Lynn Area Consultative Committee Work Programme

Name: Sandra Squire

Item for consideration:

Update of wording on balloon & lantern release ban & signing up to NCC balloon & lantern charter

Suggested Panel to take the item to:

Environment & Community Panel

Why do you think the issue warrants consideration by the Panel?

Currently the ban on balloon & lantern releases from Borough Council owned land, only applies to people who are hiring the premises. There is nothing to prevent people just turning up and releasing them. The wording needs to be changed to apply to everyone on council owned land. Also, the council should sign up to the NCC Balloon & Lantern Release Charter, to agree not to allow balloon releases etc to take place, and to promote alternatives. Posters etc are available from NCC to put in public areas.

Have you raised the issue with officers/the relevant organisation in the past?

The original ban came through Council in 2016, in 2019 it was agreed the wording of our ban needed to be changed and it has been languishing on the forward program of the committee for over a year. In that time, there have been at least 3 balloon releases from the Walks that I know of. The ban is currently unenforceable and wouldn't take long for E&C to pass it.

How can the Council influence the issue/what control do we have?

It's our land and therefore we should take responsibility and control it.

Any other information you would like to add to your request:

<https://www.norfolkrecycles.com/home/communityaction/balloons/>

Please send completed form to democratic.services@west-norfolk.gov.uk