

FULL COUNCIL – 8 JULY 2015

Written question from Councillor Bob Seely to Councillor Phil Jordan, Executive Member for Public Protection and PFI

## Written question re crop spraying

Whilst crop spraying is a recognised part of modern agriculture, the *Good Neighbour Initiative of Crop Protection UK* outlines how crops can be sprayed considerately. This guide takes into account wind speed, wind direction, etc. to reduce harm to wildlife and the human population when spraying.

If residents of the loW wish to report complaints about crop spraying not in accordance with the *Good Neighbour Initiative of Crop Protection UK* code of conduct, how can they raise concerns? The Environment Agency say that this is a local Council matter, as they have no enforcement power. Is that the case? To whom should concerned residents complain?

Would the Council consider, working through the NFU and others, an initiative to remind farmers of the responsibilities to their neighbours?

## **Response**

If an individual is affected by crop spraying from a farm they should pass the information on to the Health and Safety Executive who are the enforcing agency.

Local authorities only enforce controls in respect of the advertisement, sale, supply, storage and use for those areas not under HSE's jurisdiction, such as wholesale and retail premises, hotels and residential accommodation, warehouses, museums, catering establishments, sports grounds (including golf courses), gardens, parks and garden centres.

I would suggest that the Health and Safety Executive may be able to provide further advice and guidance. The advice on their website is as follows:

Report your concern using [HSE's online form](#). If you are unable to complete the online form, then you can phone 0300 003 1647 during office hours – 8:30 am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday, Thursday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, and a call handler will complete the form for you.