

Notice of Motion (Procedure Rule 12.1) – Council 20 February 2024

Proposer: Cllr Paul Follows

Seconder(s): Cllr Liz Townsend, Cllr Steve Williams, Cllr Gemma Long, Cllr Janet Crowe

Funding for the Environment Agency

“Waverley Borough Council

(a) strongly supports the stated purpose of the Environment Agency *"to protect or enhance the environment, taken as a whole"* so as to promote the objective of achieving sustainable development (Environment Act 1995, section 4) and the vision of the agency: "a rich, healthy and diverse environment for present and future generations" Vision (Statement, November 2008)

(b) recognises the increased demands on the Environment Agency in a time of escalating climate crisis, acknowledging that the Environment Agency currently has insufficient funds through its government grant to do its work.

Waverley Borough Council therefore calls upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer to increase the grant to the Environment Agency, ensuring that capacity for the Environment Agency providing services to Waverley and other Surrey Districts and Boroughs is increased, in his forthcoming Budget Statement, specifically to:

1. reduce flood risk and improve flood defence management and deployment.
2. respond to the increasing prevalence of environmental incidents (such as recently witnessed in Bramley)
3. engage with councils in the planning process.

Waverley Borough Council authorises the Interim Joint Chief Executive to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to make this request.

END OF MOTION.