

## Notice of Motion - 18 March 2025

### **Motion Title: Prohibition of Off-Road Bikes in Public Spaces**

**Proposer:** Cllr Archer Williams

**Seconder:** David Wilkes

#### **“Council Notes:**

- The growing issue of illegal off-road bikes being ridden dangerously in public spaces across Sandwell, causing disruption, damage to green spaces, and posing serious risks to pedestrians and road users.
- Numerous complaints from residents about noise pollution, anti-social behaviour, and safety concerns linked to off-road biking in parks, footpaths, and other public areas.
- Existing enforcement powers are limited, and the problem persists despite police and council efforts to tackle it.
- Other local authorities have successfully introduced Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) to deter and enforce against illegal off-road bike use.

#### Council Believes:

- That stronger enforcement powers would help solve the issues.
- And, that stronger powers would help protect residents, preserve green spaces, and reduce anti-social behaviour.
- Enforcement should involve collaboration between the council, local police, and community safety teams to ensure effective action against offenders.

Council therefore resolves to call on the Leader and Cabinet to explore options to:

- Consult with local police, and key stakeholders to investigate the feasibility of implementing a borough-wide Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) banning off-road bikes in all public spaces across Sandwell, that develops clear enforcement measures.
- Work with West Midlands Police and community safety teams to increase enforcement efforts against illegal off-road bike use.
- Launch a public awareness campaign to inform residents about the PSPO, encourage reporting, and highlight enforcement actions.
- Prioritise the investigation into the feasibility and implementation of the PSPO.
- Ensure adequate resources are allocated for enforcement and public engagement.
- Report back on progress within two months.”