

Notice of Motion (Full Council)

Title of Motion: **Tackling illegal off-road Biking**

Date of Council meeting the motion is to be submitted to:

Proposer: Councillor Archer Williams

Seconder: Councillor David Wilkes

Motion:

“Council notes the growing problem of illegal off-road motorcycling across Sandwell and the wider West Midlands. This causes intimidation, anti-social behaviour and risks to community safety.

Council further notes that West Midlands Police are working through Operation Adhesion to address this issue, while recognising that enforcement alone cannot fully resolve the problem.

Existing models such as Bikemech Training in Wigan, which combines vocational mechanics training with supervised off-road riding for referred young people. This has been cited by schools and partners in Wigan as an example of alternative provision, and there is potential for a Motocross facility in Sandwell, supported by motocross professionals including Craig Chamberlain of SevenSeven2 MX, to explore similar approaches in the West Midlands.

Council believes these options should be explored as alternatives that could complement policing, support schools, youth services, and improve community confidence.

Council therefore calls on the Leader and Cabinet to –

1. Commission a feasibility study to identify potential land for a Sandwell Motocross and Youth Facility. Work with partners including West Midlands Police, the PCC’s Office, local schools, PRUs, youth offending teams, community services to explore a delivery model that combines motocross provision with wider youth club activities.
2. Identify and pursue funding opportunities.

3. Explore options for schools and PRUs to contribute per-student funding, following models seen elsewhere, to ensure financial sustainability.
4. Report back to Cabinet within three months with options for site, partners, funding and a delivery plan to enable a pilot scheme.”