

Suffolk County Council meeting Thursday 22 May 2025, vote taken on Motion 2.

Motion – Proposed by Councillor Jessie Carter and seconded by Councillor Andrew Stringer.

Motion Text: ‘The RSPCA’s ‘Pets as Prizes’ campaign seeks to ban the archaic practice of giving live animals as prizes. Often winners of such a prize are not adequately prepared to meet the live animal’s welfare needs.

Currently, in England and Wales, it is an offence to give animals away as a prize to anyone under the age of 16, unless accompanied by an adult. We believe Suffolk should take example from Scotland, who have outlawed this practice regardless of age.

We believe Suffolk County Council can set an example for the county and for this government. Therefore, our Council is asked to agree to support the RSPCA campaign and thereby to resolve:

- 1) That an outright ban of the giving of live animals as prizes on Suffolk County Council owned land is implemented. This refers to animals intended as pets, and does not include farm animals which may be given as prizes by farmers and farming businesses.
- 2) That this Council writes to the UK government requesting an outright ban of live animals as prizes, on both public and private land.
- 3) That this Council carries out a review of the current policies and the terms and conditions of the licences and hire of Council-owned land and premises to ensure that they reflect the Council’s position as regards giving of live animals (e.g. goldfish etc) as prizes.
- 4) Call on our districts and other Local Authorities to do the same.’

Total results	
For	46
Against	1
Abstain	3

Conservative Group

Councillor’s Name	For	Against	Abstain
Edward Back	For		
Peter Beer	For		
Bobby Bennett	For		
Stuart Bird	For		
Elaine Bryce			
Stephen Burroughes	For		

Nadia Cenci	For		
Jenny Ceresa			
Chris Chambers			Abstain
Judy Cloke			
Andy Drummond	For		
Philip Faircloth-Mutton	For		
James Finch			Abstain
Jessica Fleming	For		
Mick Fraser	For		
David Goldsmith	For		
Georgia Hall			
Liz Harsant			
Ryan Harvey			
T-J Haworth-Culf			
Matthew Hicks	For		
Rachel Hood	For		
Beccy Hopfensperger	For		
Michael Ladd	For		
Stuart Lawson			
Henry Lloyd	For		
Joe Mason	For		
Debbie McCallum			
Patti Mulcahy			
Sam Murray	For		
David Nettleton			
Alexander Nicoll			
Colin Noble	For		
Kay Oakes			
James Reeder	For		
Andrew Reid	For		
Debbie Richards	For		
David Roach	For		
Keith Robinson	For		
Richard Rout	For		
Richard Smith MVO		Against	
Karen Soons	For		
Heike Sowa	For		
Joanna Spicer	For		
Lance Stanbury			Abstain
Jamie Starling			
Melanie Vigo di Gallidoro			
Paul West	For		
Steve Wiles	For		
Nathan Wilson	For		

Green, Liberal Democrat and Independent Group

Councillor's Name	For	Against	Abstain
Seamus Bennett	For		
Jessie Carter	For		
Annette Dunning	For		
Simon Harley			
Richard Kemp			
Ruth Leach	For		
Ash Lever	For		
Robert Lindsay	For		
Inga Lockington	For		
Victor Lukaniuk	For		
Andy Mellen			
Penny Otton			
Keith Scarff	For		
Andrew Stringer	For		
Caroline Topping	For		
Keith Welham	For		

Labour Group

Councillor's Name	For	Against	Abstain
Rob Bridgeman	For		
Peter Byatt			
Adele Cook	For		
Elizabeth Farrow			
Sandy Martin	For		
Lucy Smith			

Ungrouped Independent Councillor

Councillor's Name	For	Against	Abstain
Peter Thompson			

Ungrouped Reform UK Councillor

Councillor's Name	For	Against	Abstain
Christopher Hudson			