

## **Pets and Prizes Motion For Swale Borough Council Meeting**

This Council is concerned about the number of cases reported to the RSPCA each year, and those that go unreported, regarding pets given as prizes via fairgrounds, social media and other channels in England and Wales, including fish, dogs, ducklings and even horses.

Many animals are won by children or their parents, who are unprepared to take on a pet, simply as the result of winning a game. Pet ownership is a huge responsibility, one that should be planned and well thought out, and not one that should ever be a result of winning a prize.

Although, under the Animal Welfare Act 2006, it is already an offence to give an animal as a prize to anyone under the age of 16, except within the family context, this Council believes that this does not go far enough. This council:

1. Notes its opposition to the giving of live animals as prizes.
2. Asks the Environment Committee to develop and, if appropriate, adopt a council policy which bans the giving of live animals as prizes, in any form, on Swale Borough Council owned land, to the extent that this is feasible within the law and other constraints.

Proposed by Councillor Mike Dendor  
Seconded by Councillor Mike Whiting