

Midlothian Council Labour Group



**Midlothian Council
Tuesday 17 February 2015
Item No 7 (b)**

Notice of Motion

There has been an increase in the use of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), more commonly known as legal highs among young people, and the wide scale sale in local shops makes them easily accessible. There have been 114 cases of NSP users being admitted to the Royal Edinburgh Hospital and tragically there have been six deaths in Edinburgh related to these lethal substances.

We are aware that this matter has been discussed at local level and in both Parliaments, but we feel that more must be done to bring about the necessary legislation to stop the sale of these substances.

We feel now that a more robust approach is needed, and that this Council must seek agreement of all parties to demand that the UK Government starts the process of legislation needed, not just to curb this practice but to ensure that these types of substance join other banned substances.

Midlothian Council therefore calls upon the UK Government to classify New Psychoactive Substances as banned substances under the Misuse of Drugs Act.

Moved

Cllr Margot Russell

Seconded

Cllr Bryan Pottinger