



Make fireworks less frightening



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Hertsmere Borough Council is promoting the use of quieter fireworks to protect vulnerable people and animals this Bonfire Night. The call comes after the council passed a motion in January 2021 to introduce a number of measures to reduce the impact of firework events on the public and pets.

The council will require organisers of displays on council-owned land to agree suitable noise levels beforehand, as well as encourage local suppliers to stock quieter fireworks.

Organisers of public firework displays will also be asked to advertise their events in advance to allow residents to take precautions where needed.

The council is supporting the RSPCA's campaign to help raise public awareness of the impact fireworks have on animal welfare and vulnerable people, as well as writing to the government urging them to limit the noise of fireworks displays.

Councillor Seamus Quilty, portfolio holder for Environment, said: "The council recognises the integral role played by fireworks in the celebration of national and cultural events and the joy they bring to many people of all ages. But we also acknowledge the harm to animals and vulnerable people caused by the fireworks loud noises.

"We want to keep the joy that fireworks bring to a lot of people, but with consideration to vulnerable people and animals that are put under extreme stress and anxiety because of them.

"By raising awareness of the issue and enforcing some simple measures, we hope to make this time of year a little easier on people and pets."

To find out more about the RSPCA's #BangOutOfOrder campaign for quieter fireworks please visit:

www.rspca.org.uk/getinvolved/campaigns/fireworks

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