

**Wiltshire Council**

**Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee**

**1 March 2016**

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**Notice of Motion No. 30 – Fracking – From Councillors Jeff and Helen Osborn -  
as approved by Council 23 February 2016**

This Council notes that the Oil and Gas Authority (OGA) has recently decided to offer licences for four blocks of land in Wiltshire and that the licences for these blocks will contain conditions prohibiting activities in order to protect ecological sites.

Nonetheless, in its response to the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA), Council made a case against the “water hungry” nature of this mode of exploration and extraction because of the potential impact it may have on Wiltshire aquifers. .

Council also notes central government’s planned extension of permitted development rights to cover exploratory drilling and investigation.

**Consequently Council requests that Scrutiny establish a task group to help Councillors better understand the general implications of possible hydrocarbon exploration and extraction in the county. This will enable members on relevant planning committees to be better briefed on such matters.**